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ABSTRACT

This Federal textbook on citizenship is designed to familiarize immigrants with the United States and the English language. Comprised of 17 chapters, the first few introduce the foreign-born to the American community, help him find a home, a job, and the security available to him despite his alien status. Several other chapters, namely, "Work in America," "Our American Ways," and "Getting Ahead in America" accustom him to the opportunities, services, and diversity of the United States. Three chapters on United States history and the Constitution introduce our present governmental system. Two more chapters describe the people and the events that made America a world power. The final chapters deal with attaining citizenship and voting intelligently. The text concludes with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Each chapter contains questions stressing the proper usage of new terms and reinforcing the ideas covered in the text. A glossary at the end of the text helps the student with difficult terms. Related documents are ED 059 920 and ED 059 111. (JH)

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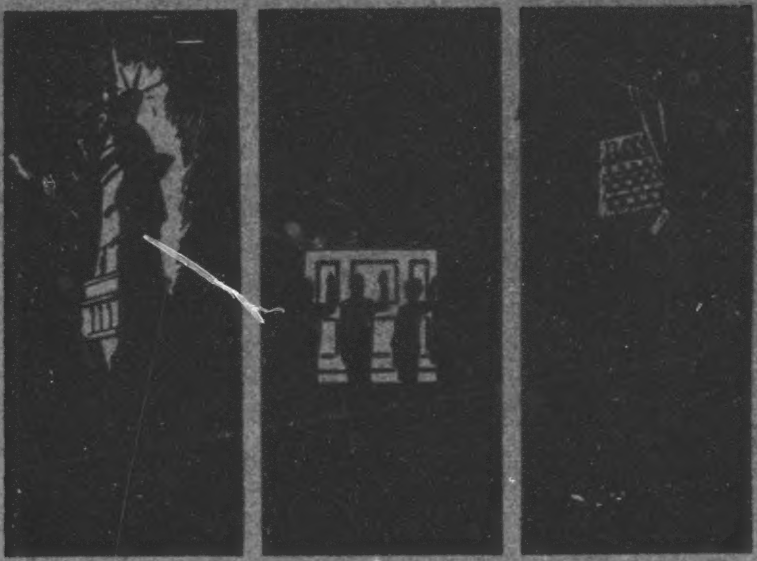
ED 087679

Our United States

SO 006 940



FEDERAL TEXTBOOK ON CITIZENSHIP

Becoming a Citizen Series

BOOK 2

ED 087679

Our United States

BOOK 2

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE

M-162 Revised 1973 N

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

FOREWORD

Our United States, Book 2, is one of three textbooks which, together with a *Teacher's Guide*, form the "Becoming a Citizen Series" of the Federal Textbooks on Citizenship which are published by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The other two books of the Series are *Our American Way of Life*, Book 1, and *Our Government*, Book 3. The series was published in 1964. All books are regularly revised to reflect any changes that may have occurred in our government or in the laws.

This book will help you learn to read, speak, and write English. It will tell you about life in the United States and how you can take part in it. You will learn about the history and government of our country. You will also learn about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and how you can become an American citizen.

As you discuss what you read in your citizenship class, you will understand how people and events helped to make America a strong and proud nation. You will be better prepared for your citizenship examination. Most important, what you learn about the United States and its customs will help you become a better citizen and live a rich and useful life in our democracy.

Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization

CONTENTS

Page

Foreword iii

Chapter 1 A Look at the People 1

Chapter 2 The Newcomer in an American Community 5

Chapter 3 Finding a Home in America 9

Chapter 4 Finding a Job in the United States 15

Chapter 5 Finding Security in the United States 23

Chapter 6 A Look at Work in America 31

Chapter 7 Our American Ways 37

Chapter 8 Getting Ahead in America 41

Chapter 9 The Struggle for Independence 45

Chapter 10 The Growth of Democracy 51

Chapter 11 The Constitution and the Bill of Rights 57

Chapter 12 The Organization of Our Government 65

Chapter 13 Laws and Lawmakers 73

Chapter 14 The United States Becomes a World Power 79

Chapter 15 People Who Helped America Grow 89

Chapter 16 Becoming an American Citizen 97

Chapter 17 Voting Intelligently 105

The Declaration of Independence 111

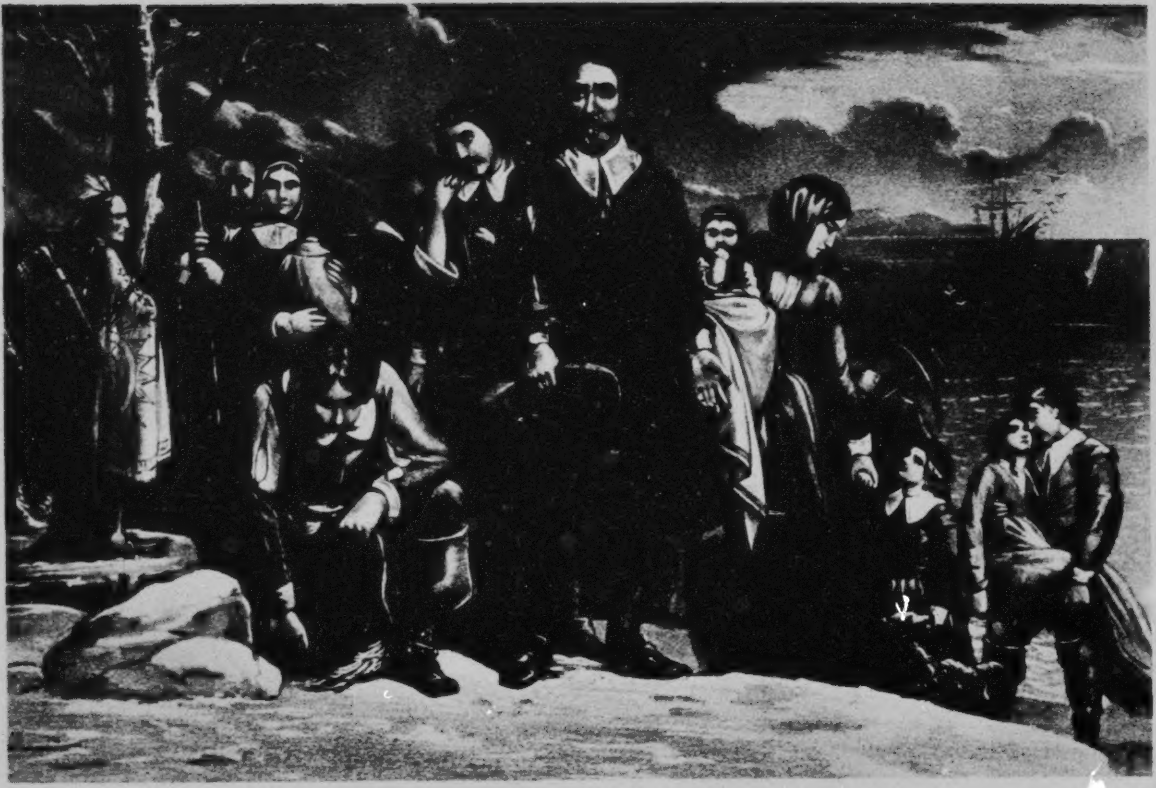
The Constitution of the United States 115

Amendments 123

Words and Terms Used in Text 129

Chapter 1

A LOOK AT THE PEOPLE



The Landing of the Pilgrims

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

America's miracle is its people. This chapter tells how men and women from all over the world have come to our country to begin a new and better life for themselves. Read the story and answer these questions:

- What is meant when people say that all Americans are immigrants or sons of immigrants?
- What is freedom from want?

Word Study

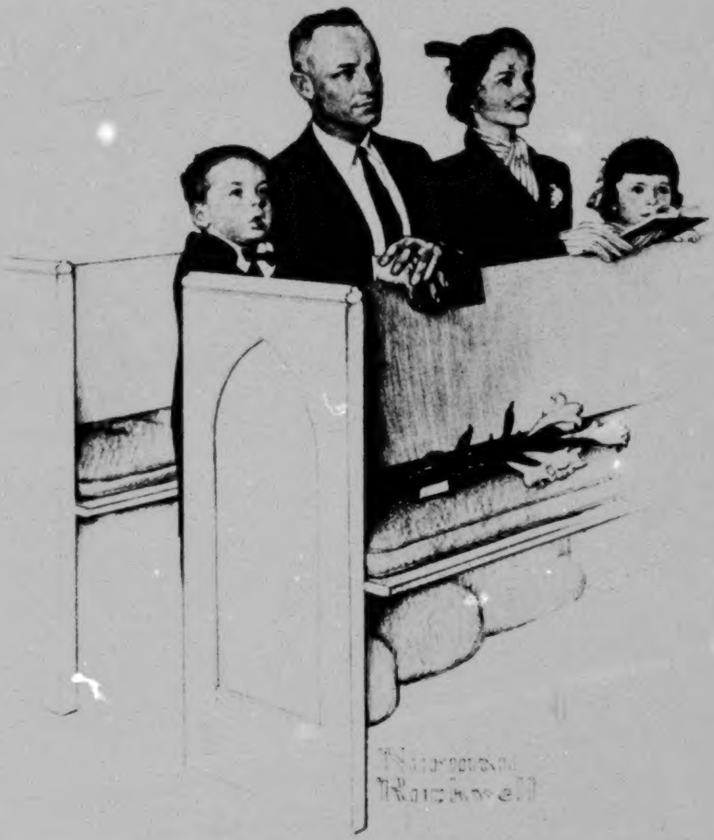
Read these sentences and learn the meaning of the underlined words:

1. Many of us are immigrants to the United States.
2. We are descendants of people from other countries.
3. The Pilgrims who came to this country showed great courage.
4. Good parents try to protect their children from fear and want.
5. In America we respect all religions.
6. The United States is a land of opportunity.
7. Many of today's immigrants want freedom from fear.

The Words and Terms at the end of this book will give the meanings of the underlined words.

Talk About

How can an immigrant make a better life for himself?



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Freedom of Worship

A LOOK AT THE PEOPLE

There are many reasons for America's greatness, but the most important are the people who live here, and the kind of government they have made for themselves.

The United States was built by men and women who came to this country from all over the world. All Americans, except the Indians, are immigrants or descendants of immigrants.

Most immigrants came to the United States seeking freedom and opportunity. The people who started our first English colony at Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607 came here to find a better life. The Pilgrims who crossed the Atlantic Ocean in their tiny ship, the *Mayflower*, in 1620 came here to enjoy religious freedom. They came with their wives, their children, their animals, and their belongings. People still come to our shores seeking a better way of life. Immigrants who come to America today by jet plane or large ship want the same freedoms—freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from fear, and freedom from want.

In the United States every person is important. The belief that everyone has the same rights is the backbone of our American way of life. It took courage and strength to make this a part of our way of life. It will take courage and strength to live by this belief.

America is a nation of people from all walks of life. Like other countries, America has people who are rich, who are poor, who are educated, and who are uneducated. In America, however, most people are neither very rich nor very poor. But it is all the people who help to keep our country strong.

Every person in the United States has the right and the opportunity to better himself. This opportunity is the same for people of all races and religions.

Everywhere in America we find people of different backgrounds living together in peace and happiness. We see churches, synagogues, and temples side by side. We respect each other's religion and ways. We are a friendly people. We want to be good neighbors. This is our strength. This is our wealth.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Match the beginning of each sentence with its proper ending:

1. The first Americans
2. The first English colony in America
3. Most families in America
4. Most Americans are
5. America is a nation of people

a. from all walks of life.
b. immigrants or descendants of immigrants.
c. were Indians.
d. was started at Jamestown in 1607.
e. are neither very rich nor very poor.

Checking Word Meanings

Complete these sentences:

1. Most people in the United States respect ________________.
2. The opportunity for a better life means the chance to ________________ ________________.
3. Freedom from want means being sure of enough ________________ to eat and clothes to ________.
4. Most of us are descendants of people who ________________ ________________.
5. An immigrant is a person who ________________.
6. Having courage means not being ________________.

Tell what the underlined part of each word means.

friendly freedom descendant
belongings uneducated

Discussion

1. How can a person show respect for another person's religion, ways, and background?
2. Why do many people want to come to the United States?

Chapter 2

THE NEWCOMER IN AN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

The story in this chapter tells about your rights and responsibilities. It also tells about the things people in America have and enjoy. As you read you will learn about the things:

- Americans are able to buy and use.
- People can do to become good neighbors.

Word Study

Learn the meaning of the underlined words:

1. We buy many things at the general store.
2. There is a library in our community.
3. A newcomer has the responsibility of keeping the outside of his home neat and clean.
4. All newcomers can make contributions to their neighborhoods.
5. The standard of living in the United States is very high.
6. We have an employment agency in our neighborhood.
7. We have the right to hold meetings to talk about the laws.

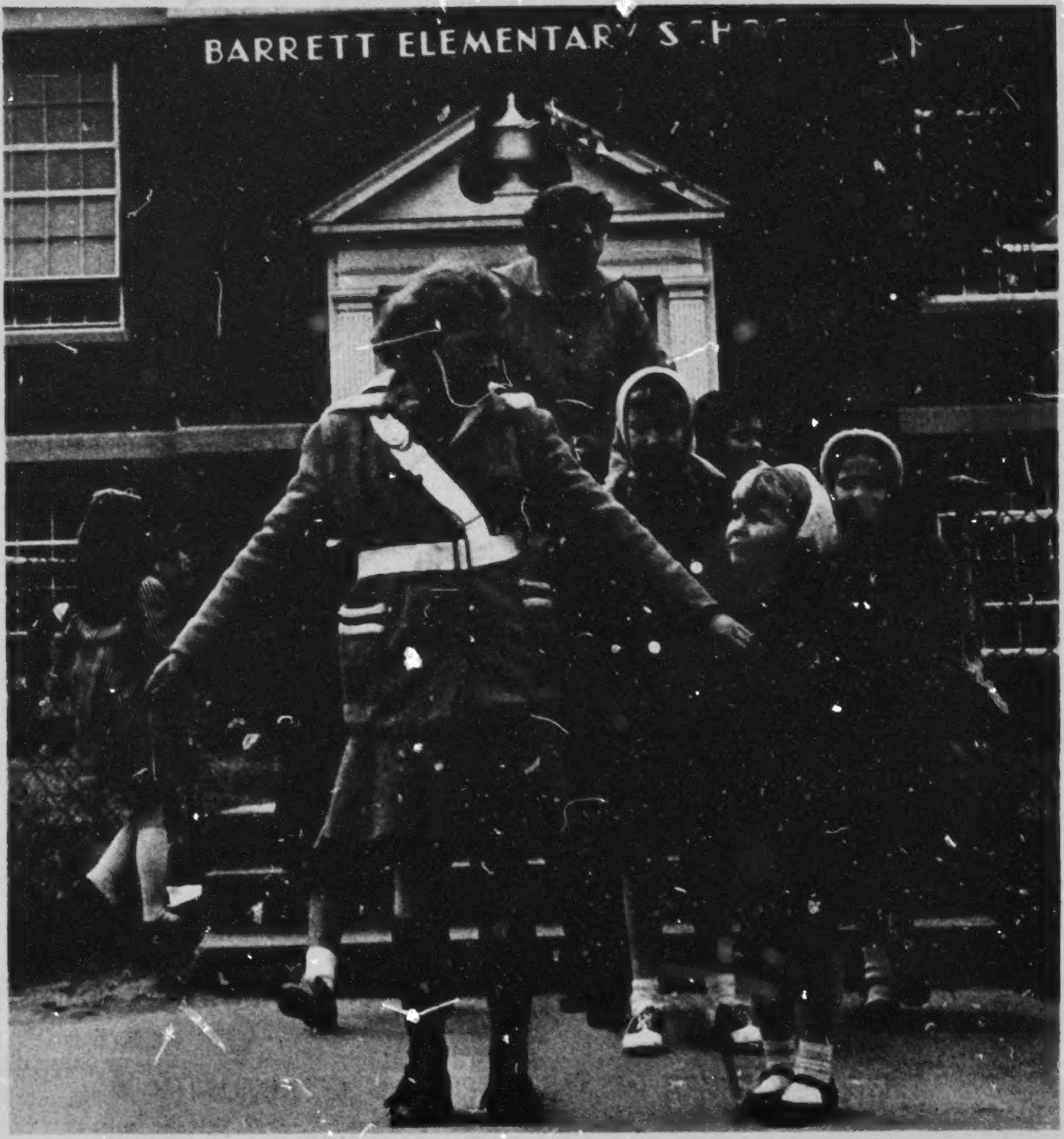
Talk About

What makes a good neighbor?

THE NEWCOMER IN AN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

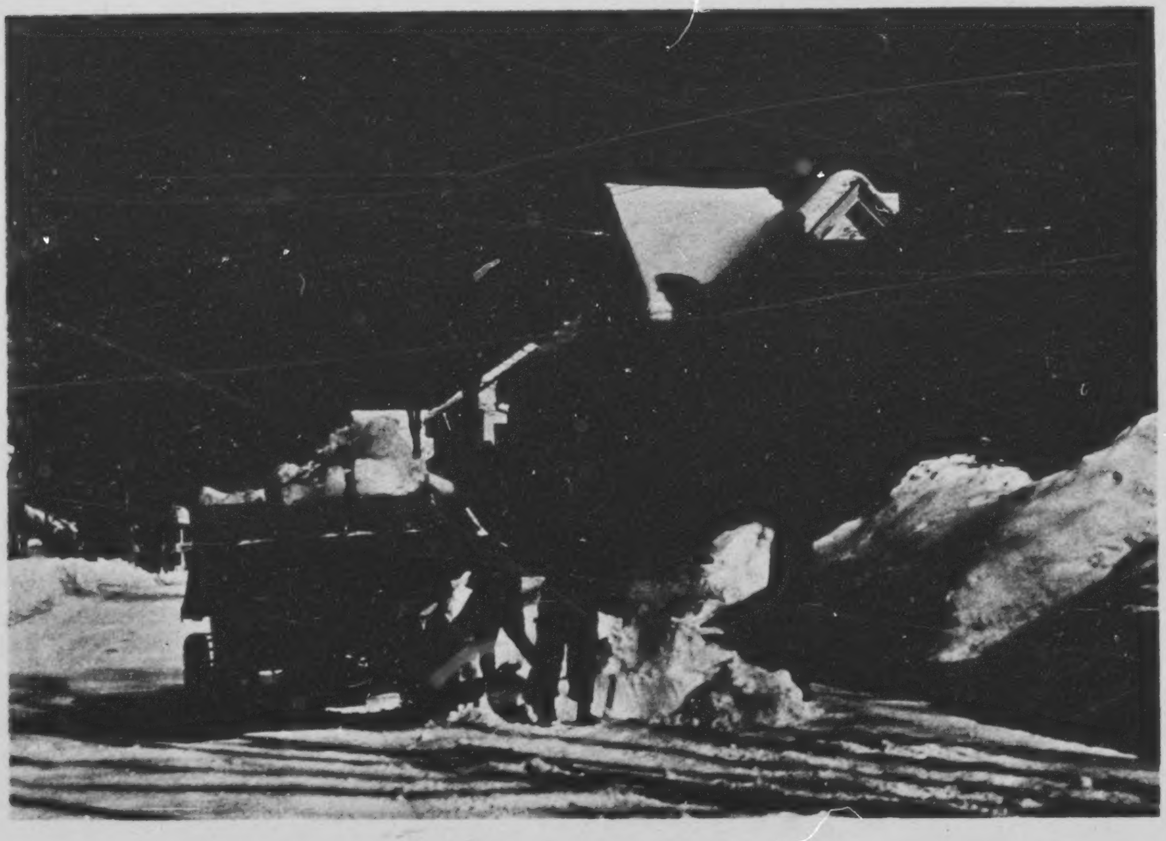
Perhaps you live in a small town with one main street, a general store, and a garden back of your house. Or, perhaps you live in a big city full of noise and traffic and shining lights at night. Wherever you live, you are a member of the American community. And, like all Americans, you have rights as well as responsibilities in your community.

You have a right to all the services in your community. You have the right to go to schools, libraries, museums, parks, hospitals, and community centers. You also have the right to seek help from employment agencies and the police, fire, and health departments.



Children Leaving School

But you have responsibilities too. You have the responsibility of helping to make your neighborhood as nice as possible. Every time you remember to throw your old newspaper into the trash basket, you are helping to keep the community clean.



Keeping Our Streets Clean

Every time you remind your child to be careful with his library books, you are teaching him responsibility.

You and your neighbors have the responsibility of raising the standard of living in your community. Your community may need a new school, or a hospital, or a playground for children. You can talk with your neighbors about ways to make your neighborhood just what you want it to be.

The United States has one of the highest living standards in the world. We have more automobiles, radios, telephones—even bathtubs—than any other country in the world. We have more homes with electricity than any other country. We have more than enough food, clothing, medical supplies, and books. We are always trying to raise our standard of living. We want every child in our country to have as much education as he needs or wants. We would like every adult to earn a good living and enjoy a full life.

You, the newcomer, bring to a community your skills and your strengths, and your hopes for a better life. You have come to live and work with us. We are glad to welcome you as a good neighbor. We need and want your contribution to our American community.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Finish these lists:

Your rights—

1. Getting a good education
2.
3.

Your responsibilities—

1. Keeping your neighborhood clean
2.
3.

Checking Word Meanings

Find the word or words that belong in each sentence:

Words

1. responsibility
2. general store
3. standard of living
4. right
5. community
6. contributions
7. agency

Sentences

a. The United States has a high ________________.

b. Every city and town in the United States is a ________________.

c. You can get a job through a public employment ________________.

d. Everyone should make ________________ to his community.

e. A ________________ sells candy and groceries.

f. Each person has the ________________ of obeying the laws.

g. Freedom to assemble means the ________________ to hold meetings.

Discussion

1. What other countries in the world have a high standard of living?
2. Why should every child get as much education as he can?
3. How can you help raise the standard of living in your community?

Chapter 3

FINDING A HOME IN AMERICA

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

The immigrant to the United States faces many new problems. He must learn English. He needs to find friends. He must find work.

However, the very first thing he must do is find a place to live. This chapter tells how the newcomer can go about finding a home for himself. The pages that follow will tell:

- The kinds of apartments that are for rent.
- How to find an apartment.
- What you get for the rent you pay.

Word Study

Read the sentences below and learn what the underlined words mean.

1. A furnished apartment is an apartment that has furniture.
2. Our landlord has an apartment for rent.
3. A new tenant moved into the apartment.
4. Mr. Mack's lease runs for one year.
5. We pay for only one service: gas for cooking.
6. You pay less rent in a public housing project.
7. A nice apartment was listed in the classified ads.
8. There is a vacancy in an apartment house near our school.

Talk About

What were the problems you faced in finding a place to live?

FINDING A HOME IN AMERICA

The place in the United States where you settle is your new home in America. During the first few days or weeks you may live with friends or relatives or at a hotel. But, sooner or later, you will probably want to find a place of your own. Your friends or relatives will help you if they can. However, you may have to find a place without their help.

A Furnished Room

You may want to move into a furnished room or apartment. You may have to do this if you have no furniture of your own. In a furnished room or apartment the landlord, the owner of the house, supplies the beds, tables, chairs, and other furniture for the tenant to use. You are a tenant when you rent a room or an apartment. As a tenant, you pay rent. The rent is usually higher for a furnished apartment than it is for an unfurnished one.

You may want to buy your own furniture and move into an unfurnished apartment. Living in an apartment with your own things may help you to feel more at home in your new country.

There are all kinds of unfurnished apartments. If you have a large family, you will want a large apartment. In the United States we count the kitchen, but not the bathroom, as a room. Not every apartment has a dining room. A four-room apartment, for example, has a living room, a kitchen, two bedrooms, and a bathroom. With a dining room, it would be a five-room apartment.

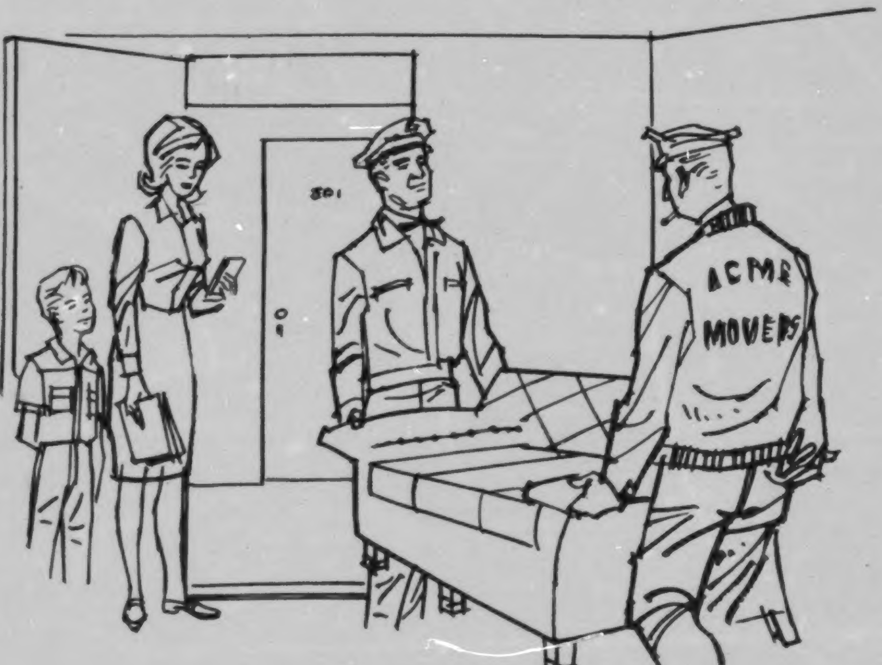
The amount of rent you pay depends on the size of the apartment. The rent you pay also depends on the floor on which the apartment is located. Elevator service adds to the cost. Where the apartment is located makes a difference in the rent.

In most buildings the landlord and the tenant sign an agreement to rent the apartment for a certain length of time. This agreement is called a lease. The rent you agree to pay is written into the lease. So are the services the landlord agrees to give you. Some of these services are gas, electricity, and heat. Usually the landlord furnishes the heat. He may or may not pay for the gas or electricity. If he does not pay for them, the tenant pays for these services.

If you live in a public housing project, you will pay less rent than in a privately-owned building. Housing projects may have a number of houses or apartment buildings. They often have their own shopping centers and playgrounds. Some housing projects have other centers where adults can meet and enjoy themselves.

If you rent a house, rather than an apartment, you will pay for your own heat. Usually you will have to pay for your own gas and electricity. You might have to pay for your water. You may also have to buy a stove or a refrigerator.

It is often a big problem to find a room, an apartment, or a house. Walking through a neighborhood is one way of finding a place to live. The signs, "To Let," "For Rent," "Rooms," and "Vacancy," will show you what places can be rented. Looking through the classified ads in the newspaper is helpful too. Rooms, apartments, and houses of all kinds are listed in the ads. Real estate offices also keep a list of vacancies. You can go to your church or to the office of a public housing project and tell them about your housing problem. They will do their best to help you.



Moving Into an Unfurnished Apartment

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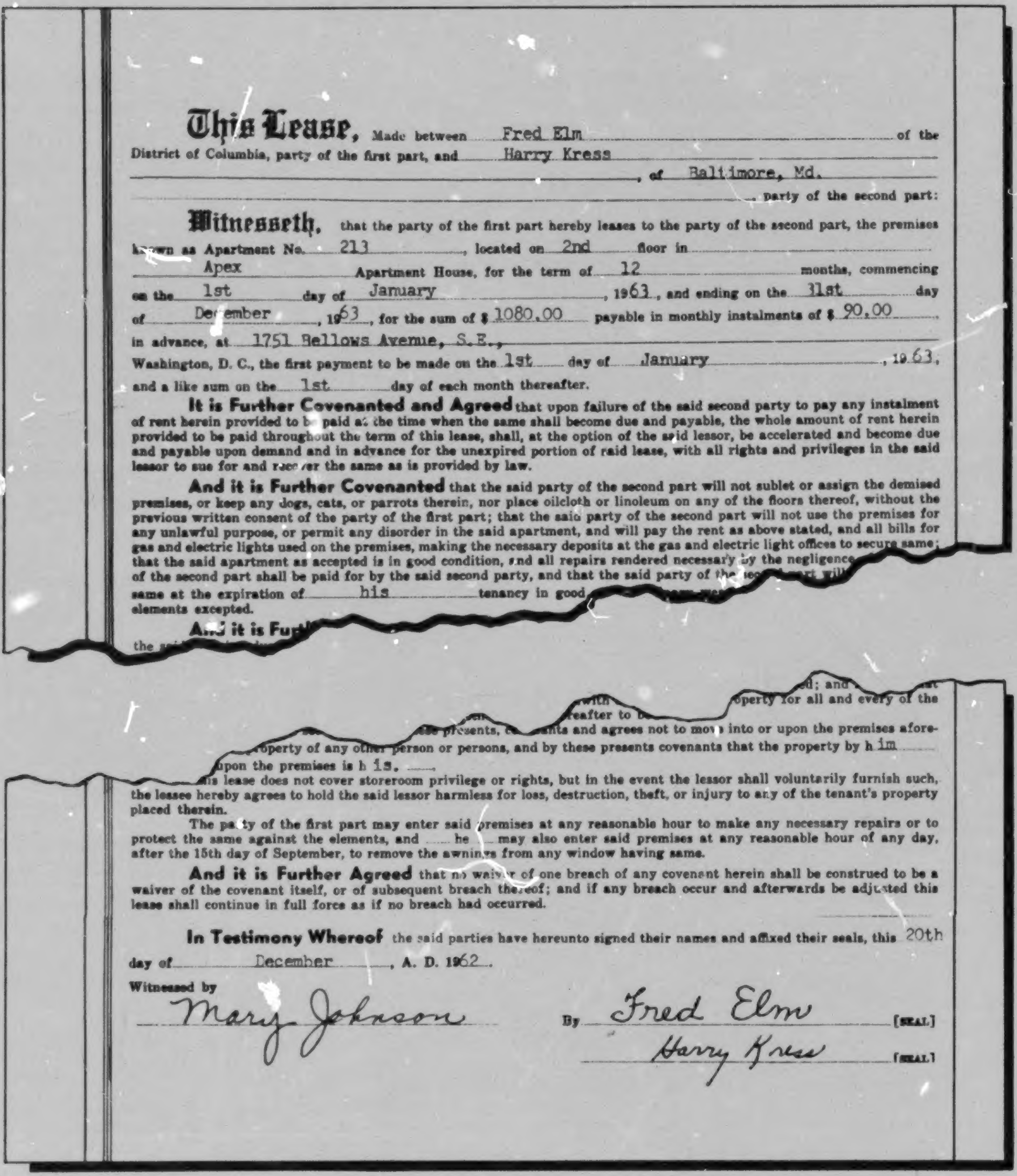


This Lease, Made between Fred Elm of the District of Columbia, party of the first part, and Harry Kress, of Baltimore, Md. party of the second part:

Witnesseth, that the party of the first part hereby leases to the party of the second part, the premises known as Apartment No. 213, located on 2nd floor in Apex Apartment House, for the term of 12 months, commencing on the 1st day of January, 1963, and ending on the 31st day of December, 1963, for the sum of $ 1080.00 payable in monthly instalments of $ 90.00 in advance, at 1751 Bellows Avenue, S.E., Washington, D. C., the first payment to be made on the 1st day of January, 1963, and a like sum on the 1st day of each month thereafter.

It is Further Covenanted and Agreed that upon failure of the said second party to pay any instalment of rent herein provided to be paid at the time when the same shall become due and payable, the whole amount of rent herein provided to be paid throughout the term of this lease, shall, at the option of the said lessor, be accelerated and become due and payable upon demand and in advance for the unexpired portion of raid lease, with all rights and privileges in the said lessor to sue for and recover the same as is provided by law.

And it is Further Covenanted that the said party of the second part will not sublet or assign the demised premises, or keep any dogs, cats, or parrots therein, nor place oilcloth or linoleum on any of the floors thereof, without the previous written consent of the party of the first part; that the said party of the second part will not use the premises for any unlawful purpose, or permit any disorder in the said apartment, and will pay the rent as above stated, and all bills for gas and electric lights used on the premises, making the necessary deposits at the gas and electric light offices to secure same; that the said apartment as accepted is in good condition, and all repairs rendered necessary by the negligence of the second part shall be paid for by the said second party, and that the said party of the second part will same at the expiration of his tenancy in good elements excepted.

And it is Fur
the

ed; and
with operty for all and every of the
reafter to
presents, covenants and agrees not to move into or upon the premises afore-
property of any other person or persons, and by these presents covenants that the property by him
upon the premises is his.

is lease does not cover storeroom privilege or rights, but in the event the lessor shall voluntarily furnish such, the lessee hereby agrees to hold the said lessor harmless for loss, destruction, theft, or injury to any of the tenant's property placed therein.

The party of the first part may enter said premises at any reasonable hour to make any necessary repairs or to protect the same against the elements, and he may also enter said premises at any reasonable hour of any day, after the 15th day of September, to remove the awnings from any window having same.

And it is Further Agreed that no waiver of one breach of any covenant herein shall be construed to be a waiver of the covenant itself, or of subsequent breach thereof; and if any breach occur and afterwards be adjusted this lease shall continue in full force as if no breach had occurred.

In Testimony Whereof the said parties have hereunto signed their names and affixed their seals, this 20th day of December, A. D. 1962.

Witnessed by

Mary Johnson

By Fred Elm [SEAL]

Harry Kress [SEAL]

Facsimile of Lease for an Apartment

A Modern Apartment Building

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions:

1. What is the difference between a furnished and an unfurnished apartment? Which is cheaper?
2. Who signs a lease?
3. How can you look for an apartment?
4. Why do you have to pay for your own heat when you rent a house?

Checking Vocabulary

Answer these questions with "yes" or "no" and give the reason for your answer:

1. Can there be a vacancy in a house where every apartment is filled?
2. Does a landlord pay for all services?

3. Is the rent you pay for an apartment a service?
4. Can a tenant sign a lease?
5. Can a landlord sign a lease?
6. Can a furnished apartment have a kitchen table?
7. Is a public housing project a good place to live?
8. Are classified ads helpful in finding an apartment?

Discussion

1. What is the easiest way to find an apartment?
2. What can be found in the classified ads of a newspaper?
3. How much rent should you pay for an apartment?

Chapter 4

FINDING A JOB IN THE UNITED STATES

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

After a newcomer finds a place to live, he must do another important thing: find a job. Sometimes he finds a job first—while he lives with friends or relatives. Then he looks for a home. In either case, earning a living for himself and family is one of the first things he must think about. This chapter tells:

- What jobs a person can get.
- How to find out about job openings.
- What employment agencies a newcomer can go to.
- How to make out an application.
- How to write a letter for a job.

Word Study

Read the sentences below and learn what the underlined words mean:

1. A lawyer or a doctor is a professional person.
2. The money you pay to an employment agency for getting you a job is called a fee.
3. When you register at an employment agency you are giving notice that you are looking for a job.
4. References are letters from employers telling how good a worker you are.
5. A former employer is one you used to work for.
6. Experience means the work you have done in the past.
7. An interview is a conversation between an employer and you.
8. When you impress an employer at an interview, he thinks well of you.
9. When an employer hires you, he gives you a job.
10. When an employer considers you for a job, he decides whether or not to hire you.

Talk About

How does a person find work in your former country?

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
SERVICE FOR EVERYONE
LOCAL STATE NATIONAL
EMPLOYMENT COUNSELOR

Interview for Employment

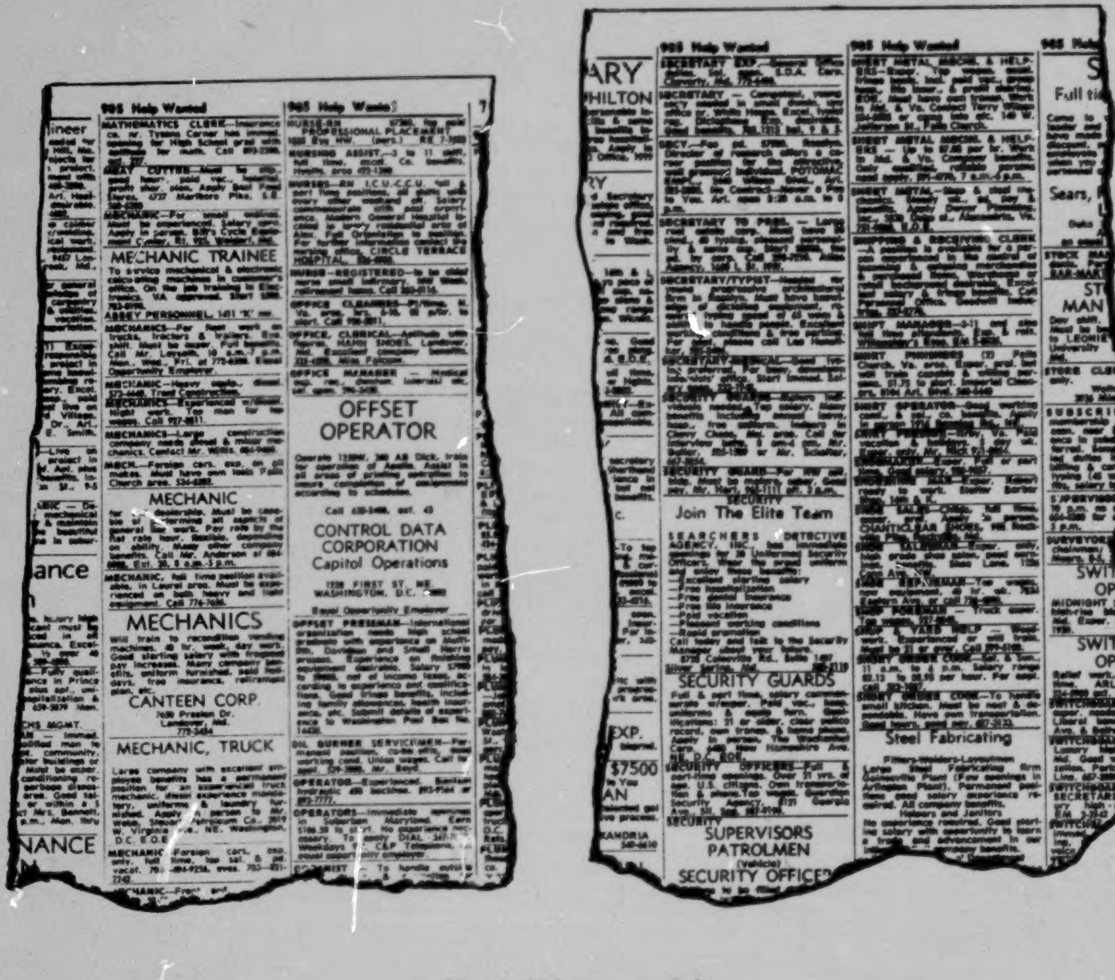
FINDING A JOB IN THE UNITED STATES

Soon after an immigrant arrives in the United States, he probably looks for a job. Sometimes friends or relatives find work for him before he arrives. If not, there are many things he himself can do to get work.

The newcomer may be able to get work through the United States Employment Service. This is a government agency. It has offices all over the country. In big cities the United States Employment Service (USES) has offices where you can apply for different types of employment. These offices have jobs for professional workers, clerical workers, and domestic workers, as well as for people who work in trades. A professional worker is one who does a job which requires special education. Clerical workers are office workers. A typist is a clerical worker. So are stenographers, bookkeepers, file clerks, and secretaries. A domestic worker is someone who works at household jobs—a housemaid, a chambermaid, a family cook, or an office cleaner. Carpenters and bricklayers work in trades. The USES does not charge a fee for its services.

There are also private employment agencies in many cities. They, too, help people find jobs. When a worker gets a job through a private agency, he is charged a fee for its services. The newcomer may find work by applying for a job at one or more of these agencies.

In the classified ads section of the newspaper, there are advertisements about job openings. Jobs are listed under the heading HELP WANTED. Both men and women can apply for these jobs.



MECHANIC TRAINEE

MECHANIC

MECHANICS

CANTEEN CORP.

MECHANIC, TRUCK

OFFSET OPERATOR

CONTROL DATA CORPORATION
Capitol Operations

Join The Elite Team

SECURITY GUARDS

Steel Fabricating

SUPERVISORS
PATROLMEN
SECURITY OFFICER

Classified Newspaper Ads

Because newspaper advertising is paid for by the space it takes up, many abbreviations appear in the ads. For example, "experienced" is often written as "expd."; "stenographer" as "steno."; "week" as "wk."; "hour" as "hr."; "month" as "mo."; "salary" as "sal."; and "reference" as "ref."

Many ads ask for a letter from the person looking for a job. The letter should include information regarding age, education, experience, and references.

Most jobs require references--the names and addresses of former employers, or a letter from them. If he has not worked in the United States, the newcomer may give the names and addresses of former employers in the old country. He may impress the person who is interviewing him with his experience and ability and be hired without references.

When writing for a job, the newcomer should make the letter short and businesslike. An example follows:

10 Oak Road
Sundale, Indiana 46010
August 10, 1970

Box #10
Park City News
210 Central Avenue
Park City, Indiana 47004

Gentlemen:

I am writing in reference to your advertisement of August 10 for a hotel clerk.

I am 35 years old and have had 10 years of experience as a hotel clerk both in the United States and in Switzerland. In Switzerland I worked for the Grand Hotel in Lucerne. In the United States I worked at the Green Manor, 44 Adams Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. I worked there from June 1, 1968, until July 25, 1969, when the hotel went out of business.

You may write to Mr. Robert C. Cole, who was the hotel manager, for a reference about me. His home address is 315 Lakeside Drive, Detroit, Michigan 48201.

If you want other references I can supply them.

I will be glad to come to your office for an interview at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Thomas R. Nash

It is a good idea to fill out many job applications. Big companies and employment agencies look through the applications in their files when they have a new job opening.

If you are in a trade which has a trade paper, try to read that paper regularly. A trade paper tells about job openings, trade news, and other things that may be important to you. Going to a meeting listed in the paper, for example, is one way to get to know people in your trade. The people in your church or community center may also be able to help you. It is important to tell them that you are looking for work. They are often the first ones to hear about a job opening.

Most trades in the United States are unionized. In a union shop, all workers must join the union. In a nonunion shop, workers may or may not belong to a union. Unions try to find jobs for their unemployed members. If your trade is one in which workers are needed and you are planning to become a union member, the union will help you to find a job.

Whatever job you get, remember that it is only a beginning. As you learn more English, more about the United States, and more about the educational opportunities in the United States, you may want to look for better jobs.

America is a land of many opportunities.

Working at a Trade

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions:

1. What is a clerical worker?
2. What is a domestic worker?
3. In what part of a newspaper do you look for a job?
4. Why is it important to meet people in your trade?
5. What is the difference between the United States Employment Service and a private employment agency?

True or False. Give a reason for your answer.

______ 1. A restaurant cook is a domestic worker.

______ 2. Unions help you to find a job.

______ 3. An answer to an advertisement should be as brief as possible.

______ 4. The HELP WANTED ads contain only advertisements about apartments.

______ 5. Employers will never hire you without references.

Writing

Practice writing a letter for a job. The letter on page 18 will help you. If you wish, write an answer to one of the following ads:

TRUCK DRIVER—Highway work. We furnish truck. Apex Trucking Co., 630 North Main St.

TYPIST
Real estate office. Good sal. Reply giving age, exp., and ref. Box 584-R, Star

Fill out the following application:

__________ __________ __________
Family or Last Name First Name Age

____
Address

Previous Employment Dates of Employment

1. __________ __________ __________ __________ __________
Name of Employer Address From To Kind of Work

2. __________ __________ __________ __________ __________
Name of Employer Address From To Kind of Work

Checking Vocabulary

Choose the proper word for each blank:

Words

1. employment
2. fee
3. reference
4. registering
5. former
6. domestic
7. experience
8. interview
9. hire
10. employer
11. professional

Sentences

a. Letters of __________ usually come from __________ employers.

b. An __________ agency can find jobs for __________ workers.

c. A person __________ for a job at a private agency should expect to pay a __________.

d. At an interview an __________ will ask about your __________.

e. An employer will often __________ a worker after an __________ without references.

f. A doctor is a __________ worker.

Discussion

1. How can a person get a job?
2. Are there unions in your former country? How do they compare with those in the United States?

Chapter 5

FINDING SECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

A person who is not a citizen is an alien. This chapter tell what rights and protections an alien has. It also tells what rights he does not have until he becomes a citizen. As you read, make sure that you understand how:

- The Constitution of the United States protects the alien.
- Social security and unemployment insurance help the alien.
- Minimum wage laws protect the alien.

Word Study

Read these sentences and study the underlined words.

1. Both the governor of the state and the mayor of the city hold public office.
2. Aliens as well as citizens are given police protection.
3. The mayor is a local officer; the President is a Federal officer.
4. Mr. Jones will retire at 65 and receive social security benefits.
5. The minimum age for drivers in some states is 17 years.
6. The local government gives assistance to those who are in need.
7. Workmen's compensation helped Mr. Davis when he was hurt on the job.
8. The Constitution provides protection for both citizens and aliens.

Talk About

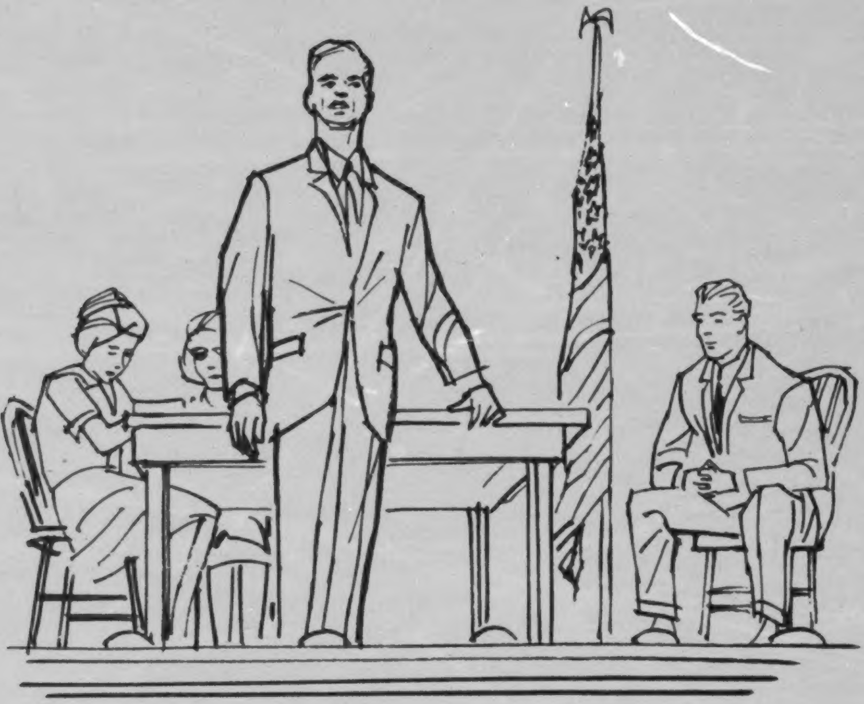
What rights does an alien have in your old country?

FINDING SECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

An alien is a person who is not a citizen of this country. In the United States an alien has many—but not all—of the rights of a citizen.

An alien does not have the right to vote. He cannot hold public office or a government job. He cannot serve on a jury. He has to notify the Immigration and Naturalization Service of his address.

However, there are many rights that an alien can enjoy; for example, an alien, like a citizen, is protected by the Constitution



Expressing Opinion in Public

of the United States. The Constitution gives him the right to speak freely, as well as the right to worship as he pleases. The alien also has the right to travel and to own property; he has the right to police and fire protection; and he has the right to an education for himself and his family.

More than that, there are many Federal, state, and local laws that protect the alien. One of these laws protects the worker who has lost his job. This protection is called unemployment insurance. The state pays him a certain amount of money until he can find a job. He may be paid for as long as 36 weeks in some states. The money to pay the worker comes from a special tax paid by the employer.

Any of us may become needy. We may get too old to work or become disabled. Worst of all, we may die and leave the members of our family with no one to support them.

The Federal government began taking care of these problems many years ago. It started a social security plan for workers. The plan insures working people against the loss of wages or earnings due to old age, serious injury, illness, or death. It is like insurance against fire or damage to your home or car.

Every person should learn about this plan.

A worker earns his right to social security by paying a special tax. This tax is taken out of the wages he earns by working for someone else. If he works for himself, the worker pays a different kind of special tax.

If you work for someone else, your employer takes just a few cents out of each dollar you earn. He takes the same amount of his money and sends it with your money to the government. If you work for yourself, your tax is a little more than if you work for someone else.

The social security office keeps a record of your wages and earnings during all of your working life in the United States. Then, when application is made for social security benefits, the government can tell from this record how much money you or your family should be paid.

The amount you or your family will receive from social security depends on how much money you earned and the number of your family dependents. To receive benefits you must have worked for a minimum number of years.

When you grow old and cannot do much work, you may decide to stop working. Before you retire, you should consider how much money you will receive from social security. You may need it to help pay rent and buy food and clothing.

Disabled Workers Are Protected by Social Security

Old Age Brings Social Security Benefits

You can receive social security payments when you are 62 or 65 years old. The amount of money the government will pay you will be more if you stop working when you are 65 years old than it will be if you stop at 62. The money will be sent to you by the government each month.

If you become disabled or so sick that you cannot work, you and your family can begin receiving social security benefits after 6 months. In case you die, social security payments will be made to your family.

Nearly all people 65 years old and over are eligible for two kinds of health insurance protection, often called "Medicare." These are hospital insurance and, for those who choose it, medical insurance. If you are 65 years or over and are entitled to social security benefits, you are automatically eligible for hospital insurance. This will help you pay the cost of hospital bills.

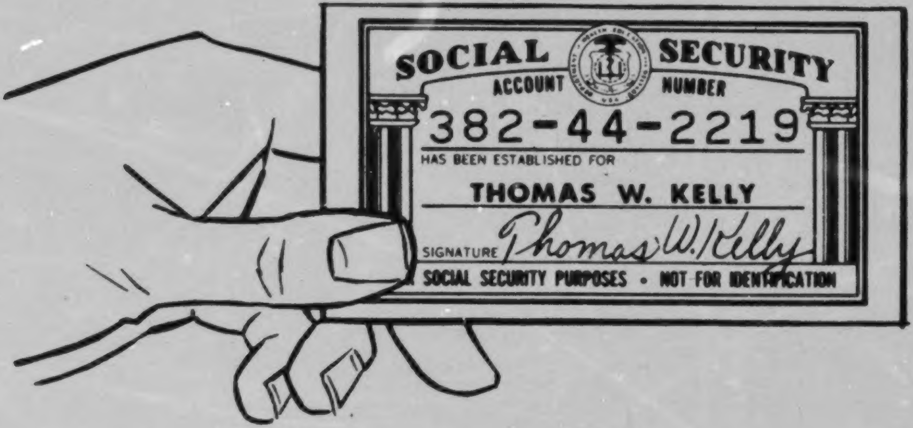
You will receive medical insurance protection only if you sign up for it and pay a small amount each month (premium). This medical insurance will help you pay doctors' bills and other medical expenses.

A worker must have a social security card. You can apply for a card at your nearest Social Security office or at any post office. The card will be mailed to you within a short time after you apply for it.

This card will have your name and a number on it. The number is your social security account number. You will be the only worker who has that number. It should be given to your employer. When he sends the social security tax to the government, he will give your name and number. The number will help the government keep a record of the amount of money you earned.

There are other benefits that an alien can receive when he is out of work and has no money. He can get public assistance. This is money which his local government gives him when he cannot buy food or clothing for himself and his family, or cannot pay his rent.

A worker who is hurt on his job can get workmen's compensation. He can receive payments during the time he is unable to work.



Social Security Card

An alien may join a labor union. He is also protected by a minimum wage law in certain kinds of work. This law provides that an employer must pay the worker no less than a fixed amount of money an hour.

In these many ways, Federal and local governments protect the welfare of the people. It will not be long until you become a citizen of the United States. Even before you do, you have many benefits enjoyed by citizens. After you become a citizen, you will have full rights and benefits.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

True or False. Give a reason for your answer.

_____ 1. Aliens in the United States have exactly the same rights as citizens.

_____ 2. Aliens may join labor unions.

_____ 3. Everybody in this country has the right to freedom of speech.

_____ 4. We have a minimum wage law in the United States.

_____ 5. Workmen's compensation is paid to workers who have just arrived in the United States.

_____ 6. The family of a worker who died cannot receive social security benefits.

Fill in the missing words:

Words

1. taken
2. Constitution
3. protects
4. record
5. government
6. social security

Sentences

a. Aliens are protected by the ______________ of the United States.

b. The social security office keeps a ______________ of your earnings.

c. Only a citizen may hold a ______________ job.

d. Unemployment insurance ______________ the worker who has lost his job.

e. Payment for social security is ______________ from a worker's pay check.

f. Every worker should have a ______________ ______________ card when he starts work.

Checking Vocabulary

Choose the correct word or words:

(entitled to)
1. Aliens in the United States are (not given) the protection of the
(not entitled to)
Constitution.

(national)
2. An official in your community is called a (local) official.
(foreign)

(holds public office.)
3. A man elected as mayor (gets workmen's compensation.)
(receives the minimum wage.)

(get an education.)
4. Aliens in the United States cannot (own property.)
(serve on a jury.)

(local.)
5. Help received is called (assistance.)
(compensation.)

6. When a man is hurt on the job and must stay home for several months,
(social security.)
he receives (public assistance.)
(workmen's compensation.)

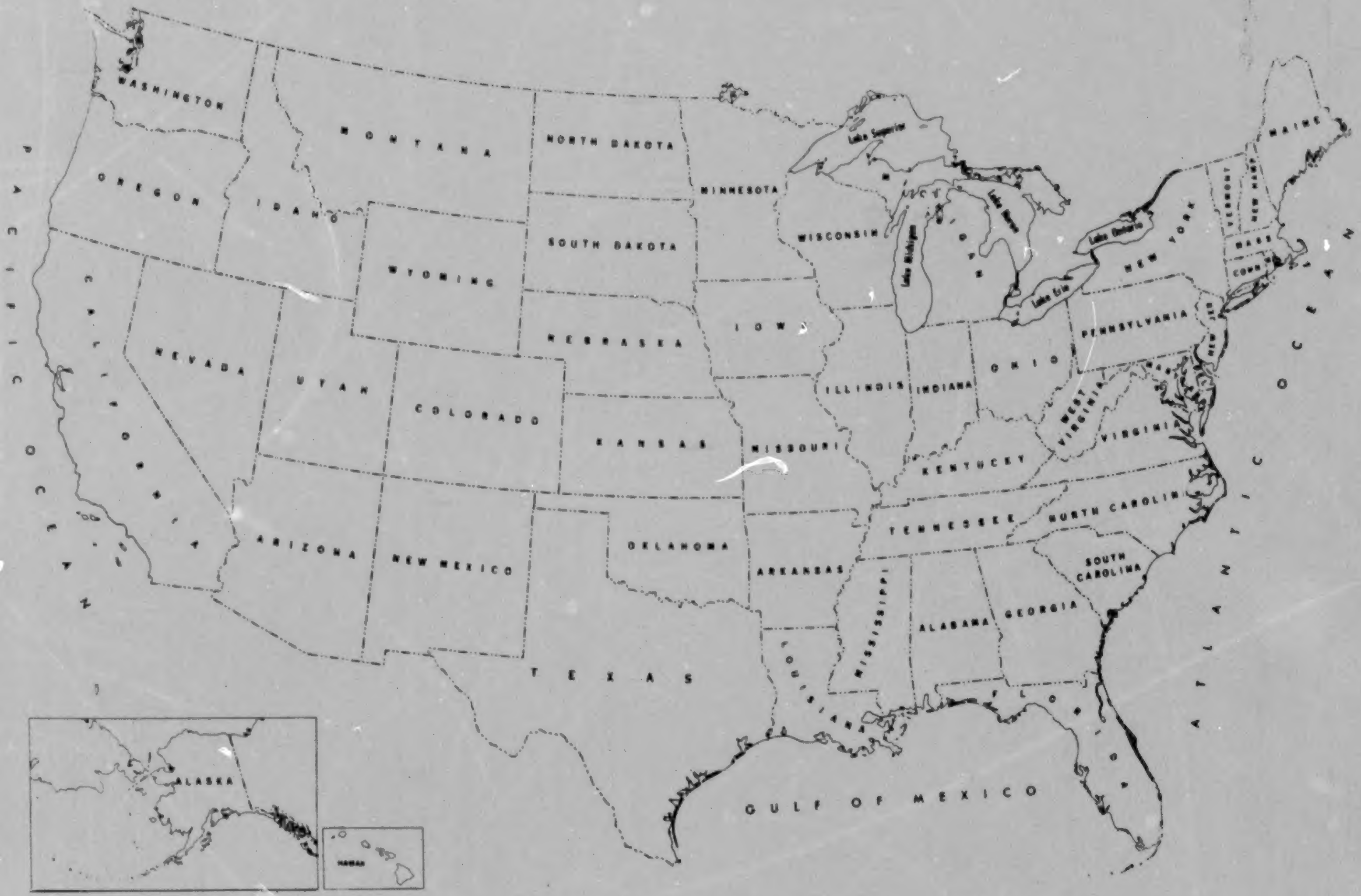
(a permit.)
7. A person who retires at 65 can receive (social security benefits.)
(unemployment insurance.)

(social security,)
8. Because of (the Constitution of the United States,) most workers cannot
(minimum wage laws,)
be paid less than a certain wage.

9. The Constitution of the United States (does not mention) (provides for) (describes) freedom to worship as one pleases.

Discussion

1. How does the Constitution protect aliens?
2. What are some of the benefits under social security?
3. How do you get a social security card?


WASHINGTON
OREGON
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
IDAHO
MONTANA
WYOMING
UTAH
ARIZONA
COLORADO
NEW MEXICO
NORTH DAKOTA
SOUTH DAKOTA
NEBRASKA
KANSAS
OKLAHOMA
TEXAS
MINNESOTA
IOWA
MISSOURI
ARKANSAS
LOUISIANA
WISCONSIN
ILLINOIS
MICHIGAN
INDIANA
KENTUCKY
TENNESSEE
MISSISSIPPI
ALABAMA
OHIO
WEST VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA
NORTH CAROLINA
SOUTH CAROLINA
GEORGIA
FLORIDA
PENNSYLVANIA
NEW YORK
NEW JER.
VERMONT
NEW HAMP.
MAINE
MASS.
CONN.
Lake Superior
Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
Lake Erie
Lake Ontario
PACIFIC OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
GULF OF MEXICO
ALASKA
HAWAII

The United States of America

Chapter 6

A LOOK AT WORK IN AMERICA

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

The United States is a very big country. Here, there are hundreds of ways of earning a living. This chapter tells about the many things Americans grow and make for use at home and abroad. You will learn where those things are grown and made. As you read, see if you can answer these questions:

- What are the important things grown on American farms?
- How do people in the eastern part of the United States earn their living?
- Where are our big industrial cities?

Word Study

Learn the meaning of the underlined words:

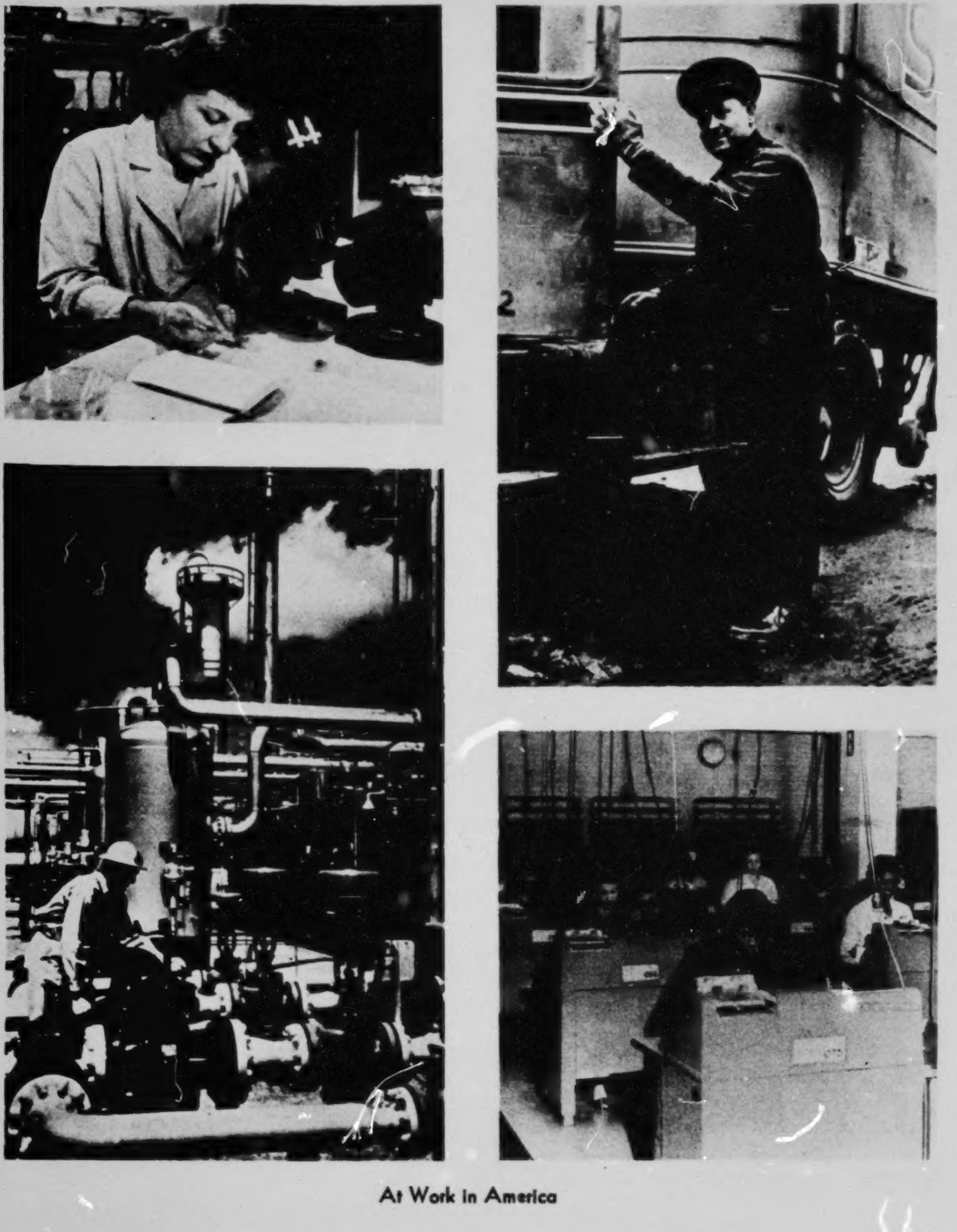
1. Farming is an important occupation.
2. Iron ore is mined in Minnesota.
3. Many farmers in the southwest irrigate their land.
4. Oil and tobacco are important products of the United States.
5. Crude oil is sent to refineries in different parts of the United States.
6. Philadelphia is one of the great industrial centers of the east.
7. The farming region of the midwest is one of the richest in the world.
8. Thousands of people work in the service trades of Los Angeles.
9. Many factories in Detroit make automobiles.

Talk About

How did people in your old country earn a living?

A LOOK AT WORK IN AMERICA

Most of you have come a long way to live in the United States of America. This is a very big country. It has 50 states. It is about as big as all of Europe.



At Work in America

Forty-eight of our states are bounded by the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, Canada, Mexico, and the Gulf of Mexico. Northward on the Pacific Coast is the state of Alaska, while 2500 miles westward in the Pacific Ocean lie the islands of the state of Hawaii. Together the 50 states of our country contain over three and a half million square miles of land.

Our large country has room for millions of people. They work in many different jobs. They live in cities, in towns, and on farms. They work in the mountains, in the fields, in factories and offices, and on the roads. Many people live near the sea and earn their living from it.

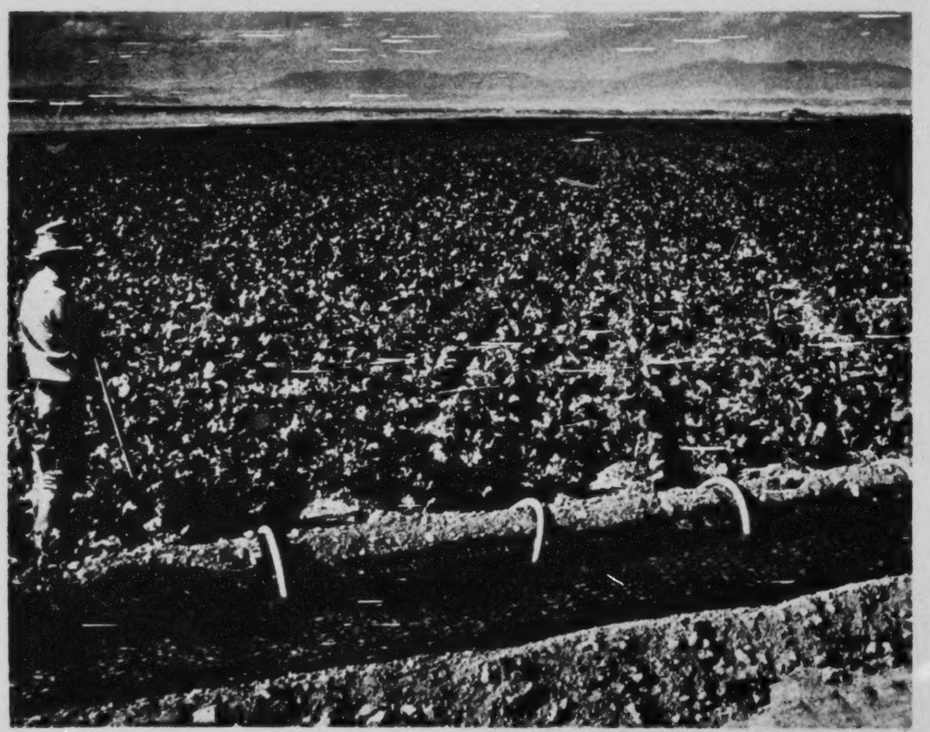
The United States is a great industrial nation. It leads the world in manufacturing automobiles, machinery, chemicals, steel, and textiles. Our chief manufacturing regions are in the northeastern and central parts of the United States. Some of the big industrial cities are New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, and Pittsburgh. Our country has many other manufacturing centers where many Americans earn their living.

A Steel Mill

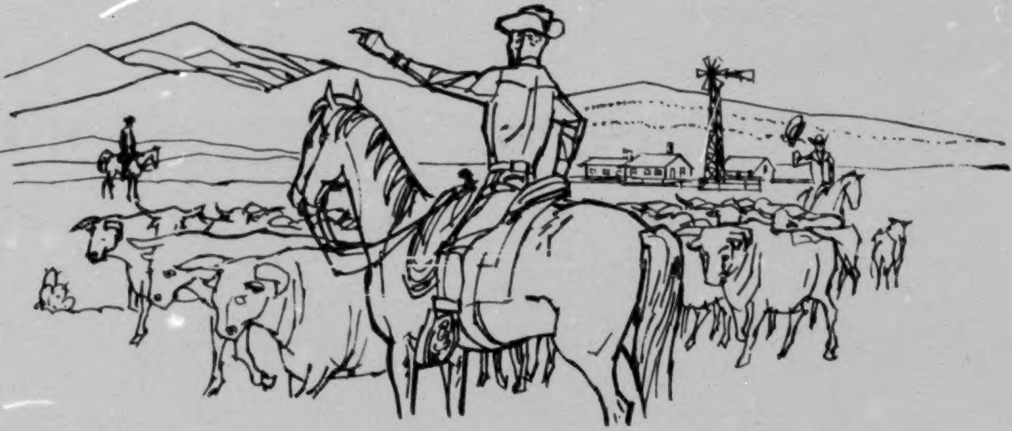
Farming is an important occupation. Farm products are raised almost everywhere in the United States. Where the land is dry, water is brought in to irrigate it. Irrigation, watering the land, helps to make things grow. In southern California, for example, we have oranges and grapes growing where there once was a desert.

In the southern states we grow cotton and tobacco. Florida, a southern state, grows oranges. In the northwestern states we grow apples. The state of Washington is well known for its apples. Idaho is known for its potatoes. Maine, a northeastern state, is also known for its potatoes. The richest farming region is in the central part of the United States. This farming area is in the "Great Central Plains." The Mississippi River, longer than any river in Europe, flows through the central part of our country. This rich farm land grows enough corn and wheat to feed all America as well as many other countries.

American farmers grow much more than their share of the world's food. In fact, they grow a great deal more than we need for ourselves. Each year we export hundreds of shiploads of food and crops to other countries.



Irrigation System for Sugar Beet Field



Cattle Roundup

We owe our high standard of living chiefly to our farms and factories.

The southwestern part of the United States is a cattle-raising region. Most of our meat comes from this area. On many large western ranches and farms horses and sheep are also raised.

All through the United States many people earn their living by raising hogs and poultry. Thousands of dairy farms are in the eastern and north-central regions. We depend upon these farms for our dairy products: milk, butter, and cheese.

Mining is another important industry. There are large deposits of coal, iron ore, copper, and other metals beneath our soil. Many Americans work in the iron ore, copper, lead, and coal mines of our great nation.

Oil is a resource that comes from the ground. Texas and Oklahoma are famous for their oil wells. Oil refineries prepare the crude oil for use in our homes, factories, and automobiles. These refineries are found in many regions of the United States.

Many workers earn their living in stores, markets, restaurants, laundries, barber shops, repair shops, and beauty parlors. These are known as service trades.

Some people work in offices. Others are in professions such as teaching, nursing, medicine, law, and engineering. Some people work in radio, television, and movies.

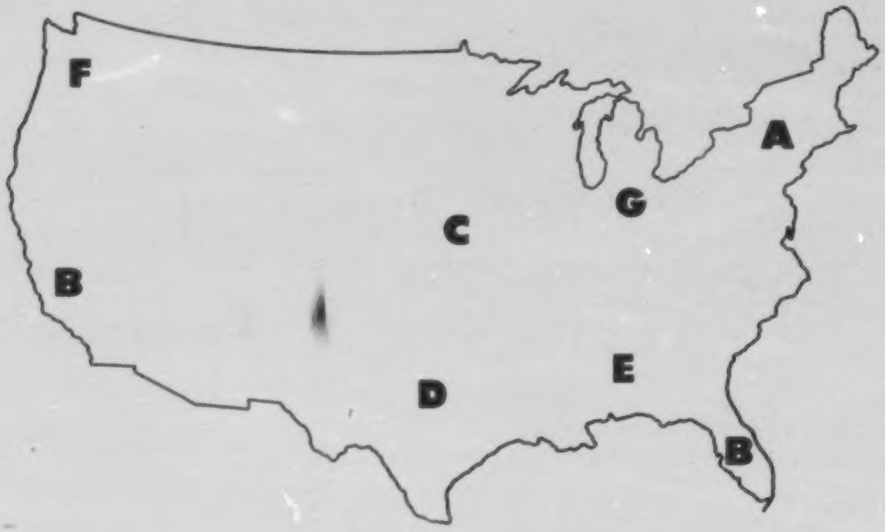
There are many opportunities in our country for everyone to work and earn a living.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions by looking at the map on the next page.

1. Which letter on the map shows an area known for its factories?
2. Which letter shows a region known for its oil wells?
3. Which area is important because of its cotton?
4. Which letter shows the areas that grow oranges?



5. Which area grows apples?
6. Which region is important because of its corn and wheat?
7. Which letter shows where automobiles are made?

Checking Word Meanings

Read the sentences at the beginning of the chapter again to find out whether you are sure of the meaning of each word. Then match each word below with its proper meaning:

Words

1. industrial center
2. irrigate
3. products
4. ore
5. refineries
6. region
7. occupation
8. service trades
9. factories

Meanings

a. things people make or grow
b. jobs that make other people more comfortable
c. to bring water to dry land to make things grow
d. place that is important because of its factories
e. part of a country
f. place where crude oil is made into gasoline
g. mineral taken from the ground and made into metal
h. places where things are made
i. job

Discussion

1. What products come from your home town?
2. Why are farms important to a country?
3. Why are service trades important?

Chapter 7

OUR AMERICAN WAYS

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

We are now ready to read about those things that newcomers to this country notice first. You will learn about:

- American supermarkets and drugstores.
- Public libraries, community centers, and their services.
- The freedom given to American children.

Word Study

Read these sentences and learn the meaning of the underlined words:

1. A prescription is written by a doctor. It tells the druggist what drugs to use in the medicine.
2. A person has to fill out an application before he can get books from a library.
3. The librarian helps people choose books to read.
4. Newcomers to the United States often go to school to learn English.
5. Americans believe in equality of opportunity for all people.
6. Newcomers often notice the freedom American parents give their children.

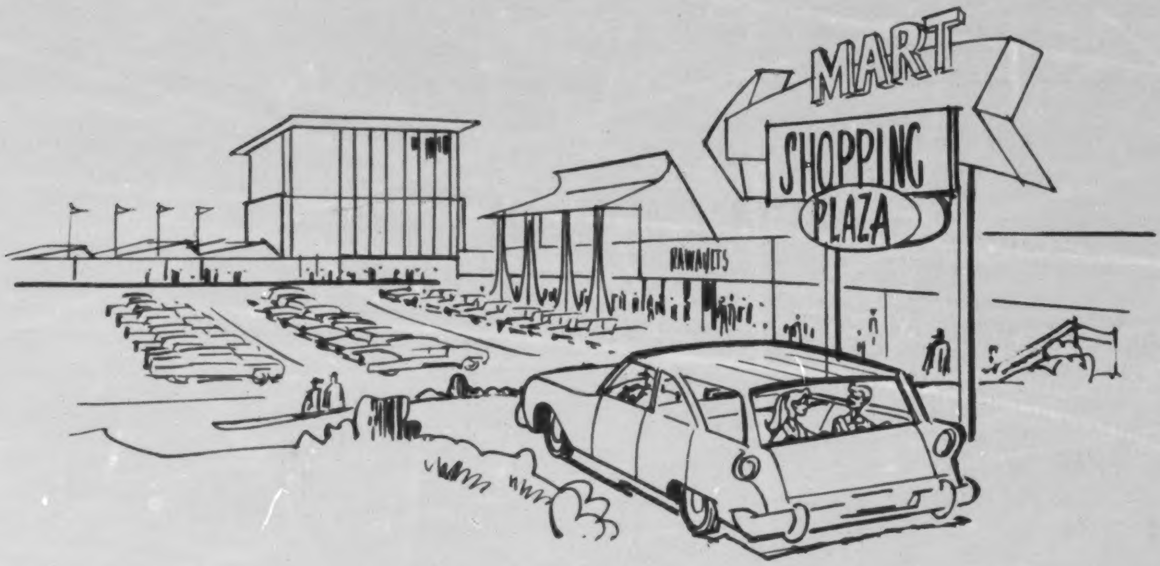
Talk About

Why are community agencies important?

OUR AMERICAN WAYS

You are now on your way toward becoming an American citizen. Some of our ways may seem strange to you. This is very understandable. Some of your ways would seem strange to us if we were living in your country.

You may find our American drugstore, for example, different from anything you have ever seen. The American drugstore, like drugstores everywhere, sells both prescription and other medicines. In many drugstores you can eat a meal, enjoy a soda, make a telephone call, borrow a book from the lending library section, buy soap, toothpaste, cigarettes, shower caps, bedroom slippers, and even toys.



An American Shopping Center

The supermarket is another unusual American store. It started as a self-service food market. Now it also sells nylon stockings, coffee pots, pet food, wiring for your lamps or your electric iron, dishes, and perhaps automobile tires.

Courtesy, The Public Library of the District of Columbia

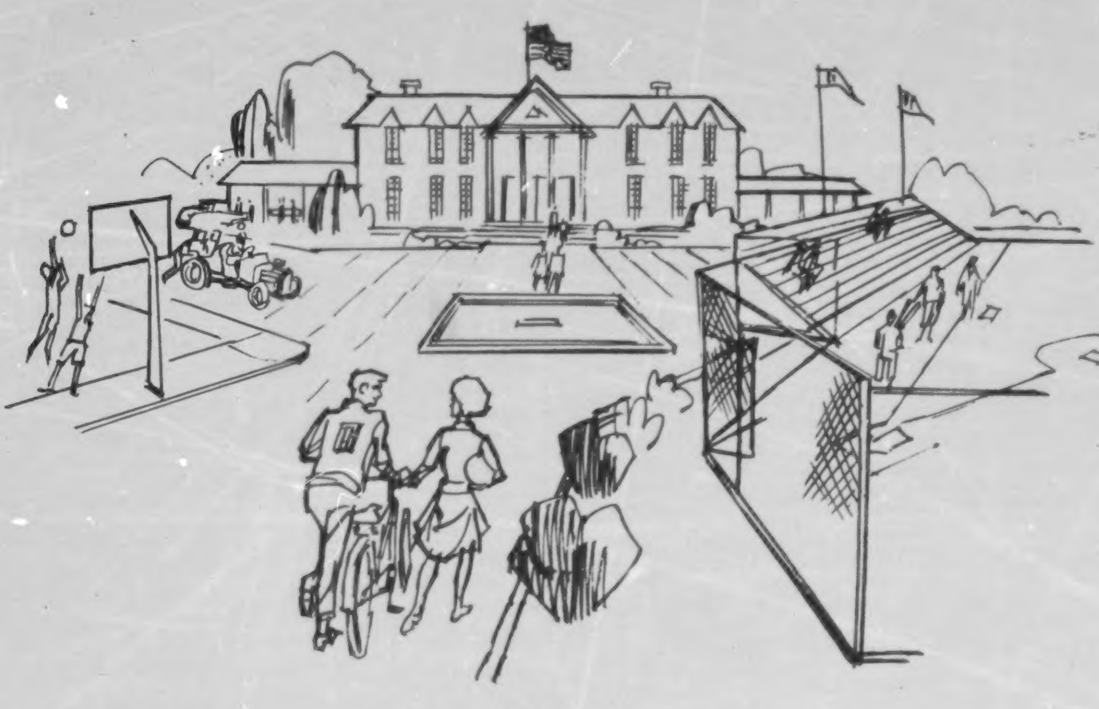
A Public Library Reading Room

Another American institution that surprises many newcomers is the public library. It is free and open to everyone. You can borrow books or magazines and take them home to read. The library has books of all kinds, in English and in other languages, for both children and adults. In some libraries, you may also borrow music records and movie films. To become a member, you must get an application from your library. On the application, you must give your name, address, the names and addresses of two people who know you, and, if you are working, the name and address of your employer. The librarian will help you fill out the application.

In many American neighborhoods, you will also find lending libraries in stationery stores or drugstores. They charge you a few cents a day to borrow a book.

The American community center is also of interest to some newcomers. In a community center, or settlement house as some of the older centers are called, you and your children can play ball, learn to dance, join a social club, hear a concert, attend a class, or take part in a discussion. Different community centers have different kinds of activities. Some have nursery schools for very young children and summer day camps for older children. Day camps plan daily activities for the children: trips to the park, swimming in a nearby pool, or games at the playground. The children return home every afternoon. It costs as little as a dollar a year to become a member of most community centers or settlement houses.

These places are all very interesting to newcomers. More interesting is the freedom that parents give their children.



A Community Center

Most American parents respect the right of children to have their own opinions. They teach their children good manners, and try to help them grow as individuals. Parents talk things over with their children and let them express their own ideas.

Our children are brought up to live in freedom. They ask questions, seek meanings, make choices, and think for themselves. They are learning to live in a democracy. Children are the hope of America.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions:

1. What can you buy in an American drugstore?
2. What can you buy in a supermarket?
3. How can you join a library?
4. What things can you do in a community center?
5. How do parents in the United States get along with their children?

Checking Vocabulary

Look at the underlined words in the *Word Study* section at the beginning of this chapter. Use one of those words in each blank below. The first sentence is done for you.

1. The doctor will prescribe some medicine.
   The patient will take the prescription to the drugstore.
2. John is a new citizen.
   Five years ago he was a ________________ to this country.
3. I visit the library every 2 weeks.
   The ________________ helps me choose good books.
4. Mr. Smith will apply for a card at the library.
   He will fill out an ________________.
5. In the United States we try to give each man an equal opportunity to get ahead.
   We are proud of the ________________ of opportunity found in our country.

Discussion

1. Should parents ask children for their opinions about things?
2. Why do newcomers notice our supermarkets and drugstores?
3. Which is more important, the great stores of the United States or American ideas about equality of opportunity?

Chapter 8

GETTING AHEAD IN AMERICA

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

America is a land of opportunity. Many people want to better themselves. If you want to better yourself and get ahead, you can. There are always jobs for the skilled or educated person. This chapter will tell you:

- How you can get more education.
- How you can get more training.

Word Study

Read the sentences below. They will help you understand the underlined words.

1. In order to get a better job, you must be trained.
2. A person who finishes high school gets a diploma.
3. She has the ability to speak two languages.
4. An interpreter explains in English what somebody else says in another language.
5. Vocational schools train people for work in trades.
6. Many jobs require an elementary school certificate.
7. Free colleges require no tuition.

Talk About

What kinds of schools are there in the community where you were born?

GETTING AHEAD IN AMERICA

The United States has many opportunities for people who want to better themselves. There are many public schools you can attend. In these schools you can learn English, arithmetic, history, and stenography. You can find classes in almost any subject you want to study. You may want to learn to type, sew, paint, or repair television (TV) sets. You may want to learn more about your trade. You may want to learn a new trade. You may want to get a high school diploma. You may want to go to college.

In many communities there are adult classes in public elementary and high schools, vocational schools, and even colleges. You can attend many of these classes without having to pay any tuition. In some schools you may have to pay a small fee. There are also many kinds of private schools for adults.

In addition to schools, many industries and unions conduct "on-the-job" training programs. In these programs you hear about new ideas and learn new skills. Many large companies will send an employee to school if he has ability.

You will have an advantage if you know more than one language. There are good jobs for interpreters, stenographers, and typists who know English and another language.

There are many good jobs in government. To work for the government you must usually be a citizen of this country and take a civil service examination. These examinations are open to everyone regardless of race, religion, or national origin.

For many civil service jobs you need an elementary school certificate. In some states an elementary school certificate is necessary for many jobs.

A newcomer with a high school diploma from his old country is permitted to take other examinations. For example, a woman with a diploma from her former country can take an examination here to work as a practical nurse. For this position it is not necessary to be a citizen. In some states, however, a person must have made a Declaration of Intention to become a citizen before applying for certain jobs. A Declaration of Intention is a legal paper in which an alien says that he intends to become a citizen.

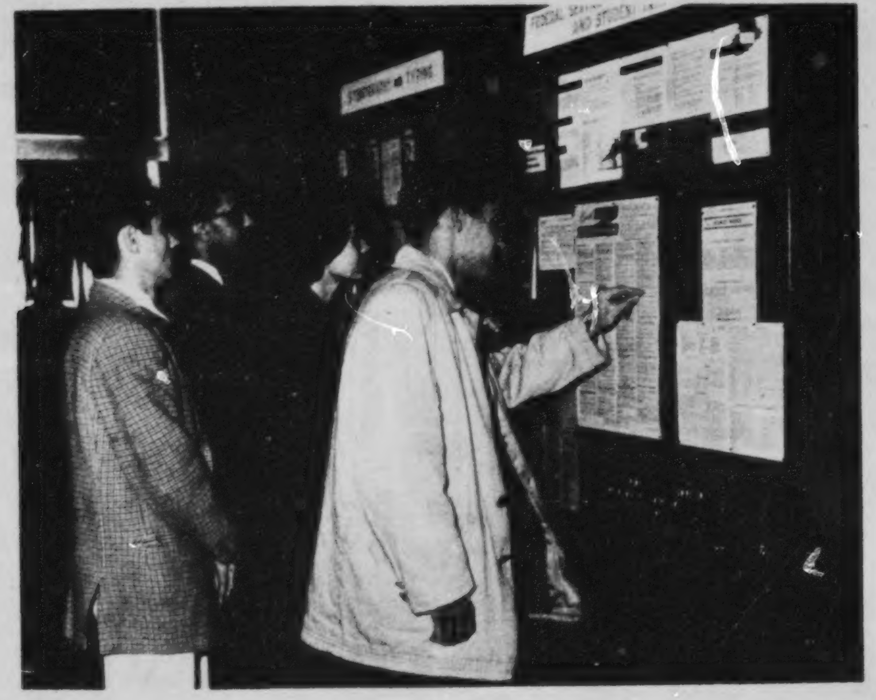
The person who does not have a high school diploma can get one in several ways:

1. He can study high school subjects—English, American history, mathematics—at home and take special examinations. If he passes these examinations, he may be eligible to receive a diploma.

STANDARD EVENING HIGH SCHOOL

Courtesy, School District of Philadelphia

Students Leaving Evening High School



Civil Service Examination Announcement

2. He can go to an evening school that prepares students to take special examinations.
3. He can attend an evening school that grants a high school diploma upon completion of required courses. In this case he does not have to take special examinations.

In America, opportunity knocks at every door. Be sure that when it knocks at your door you are ready. Be as well trained as possible. Get as much education as you can. Make certain that your children get as much education as possible. They can get 12 years of education at no cost. It is your responsibility to help them to prepare for the future.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions:

1. How can you use your ability to speak two languages?
2. What is meant by "on-the-job" training programs?
3. Where can you study typing or stenography?
4. How can you get a high school diploma?

Choose the words that make each sentence correct:

1. To get most government jobs, you must (belong to a union) (take a civil service examination) (go to a trade school).
2. In the United States, all boys and girls get a free education (for 8 years) (for 10 years) (for 12 years).
3. If you are interested in learning a trade, you will go to (a vocational school) (a university) (an elementary school).

Checking Word Meanings

Reread the sentences under *Word Study* at the beginning of this chapter. Then match the word on the left with the proper meaning on the right.

Words

1. vocational
2. diploma
3. trained
4. tuition
5. ability
6. interpreter

Meanings

a. taught to do a job
b. paper saying that a person has graduated
c. money paid for schooling
d. a person who explains in one language something that was said in a different language
e. having to do with trades
f. knowledge or skill needed to do a job

Discussion

1. Why do most people want to get ahead in their jobs?
2. Why is a good education important?
3. In what ways does a newcomer to the United States find life hard before he learns English?
4. Explain how a knowledge of English is needed in your job.

Chapter 9

THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

This chapter tells how our great nation was born. It describes how the first people who settled here worked and fought to live in freedom. As you read you will learn:

- Why the early settlers in America left their mother country.
- Why they wanted their independence.
- About some of the men who helped to make our nation free.

Word Study

Learn the meaning of the underlined words:

1. In 1776 there were 13 colonies.
2. The Pilgrims came to America to worship God in their own way.
3. The United States of America was founded in 1776.
4. The settlers who survived were thankful.
5. Thomas Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration of Independence.
6. The Pilgrims struggled to build homes for themselves.
7. A person chosen to do a job for you is your representative.
8. A traitor is a person who works against his own country.
9. The colonists declared themselves to be free from Great Britain.

Talk About

Why it is important for a person to be independent.

THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

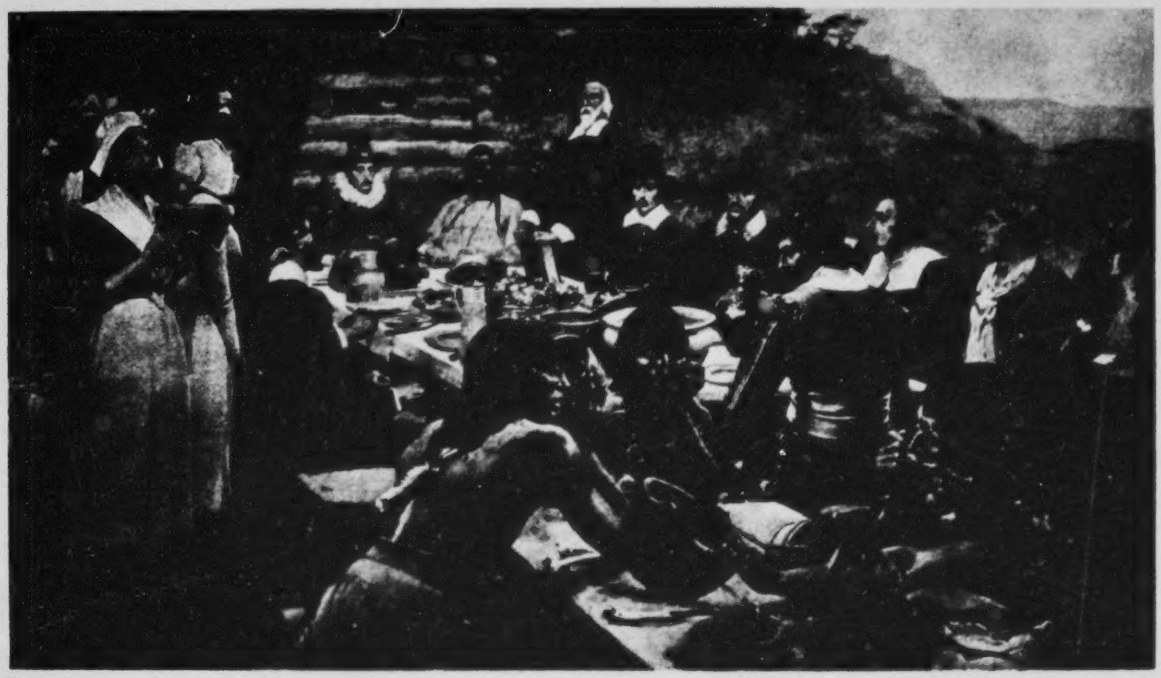
The history of our form of government begins with its settlers. Most of the early settlers came from England. They lived in groups called colonies. The King of England was their ruler.

The English settlers founded the Virginia colony at Jamestown in 1607. It was the first permanent English colony. In 1620 other English people came to America. They were known as Pilgrims. They went to Holland first. In Holland, their children began to forget the English ways. They decided to leave Holland and go to the New World. They started Plymouth colony in Massachusetts. They struggled to build homes and to exist. After a hard winter, the Pilgrims who survived held a feast with their friends, the Indians who had helped them begin their new way of life. They thanked God for their blessings. This was the first American Thanksgiving. We still celebrate Thanksgiving Day each year near the end of November.

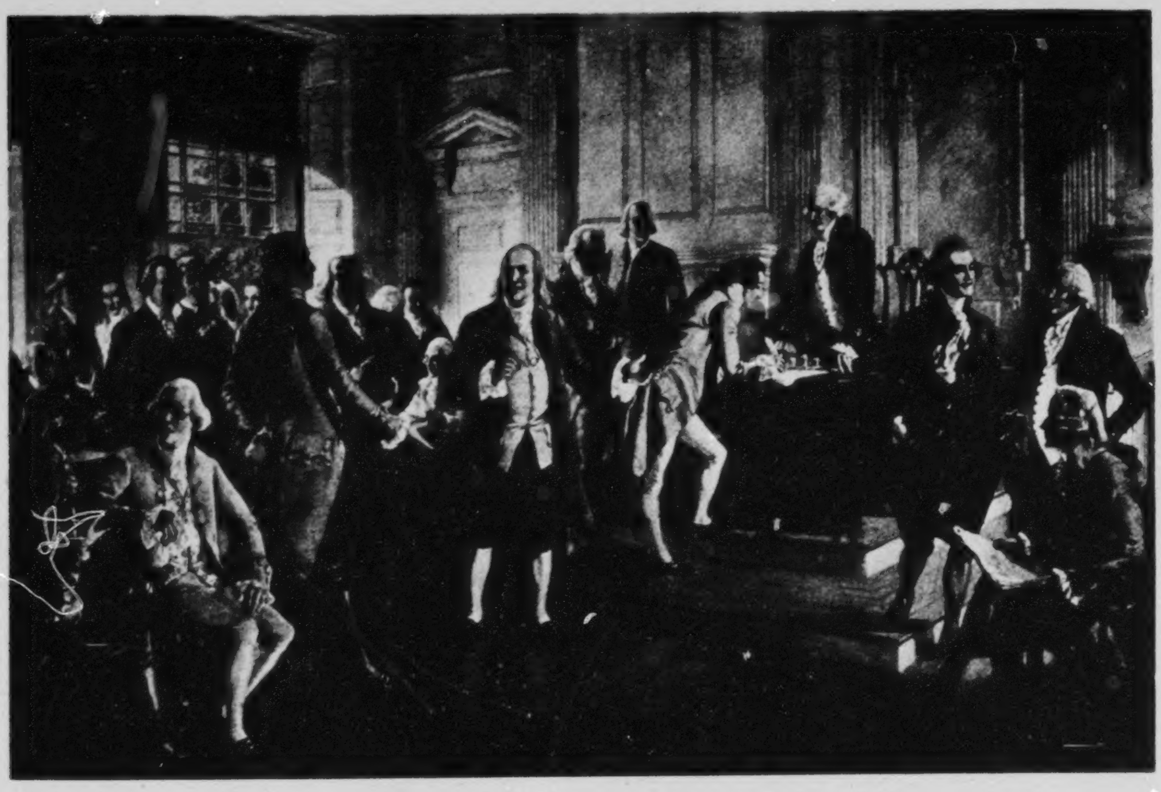
More Englishmen, as well as people from other European countries, came to live in America. Many, like the Pilgrims, wanted to be free to worship God in their own way. Others were looking for political freedom. Traders were seeking to make money. The poor and the unemployed people wanted jobs and the opportunity to earn a better living. Businessmen who had money to invest saw promise of success in America. They came from such countries as Holland, Sweden, and Finland. The Germans, Scotch-Irish, and French also were among those who came to the New World looking for a better life.

After many years, all of the colonists came under British rule. Georgia, founded in 1733, was the last colony to be formed. In 1776 there were 13 British colonies in that part of America that later became the United States. These colonies became the first 13 states. They are Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia, New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island.

The King let the colonists elect representatives to make local laws. The colonists were free in many ways. But, as time



The First Thanksgiving Dinner



Signing of the Declaration of Independence

passed, more and more laws for the colonists were made in Great Britain. Under these laws, the colonists had to pay more taxes. However, the colonists were not asked to help make these laws. They had no representatives in Great Britain. They began to feel that some of their rights were being taken away from them. They said they could be taxed only by their own representatives. The King refused to change the tax laws.

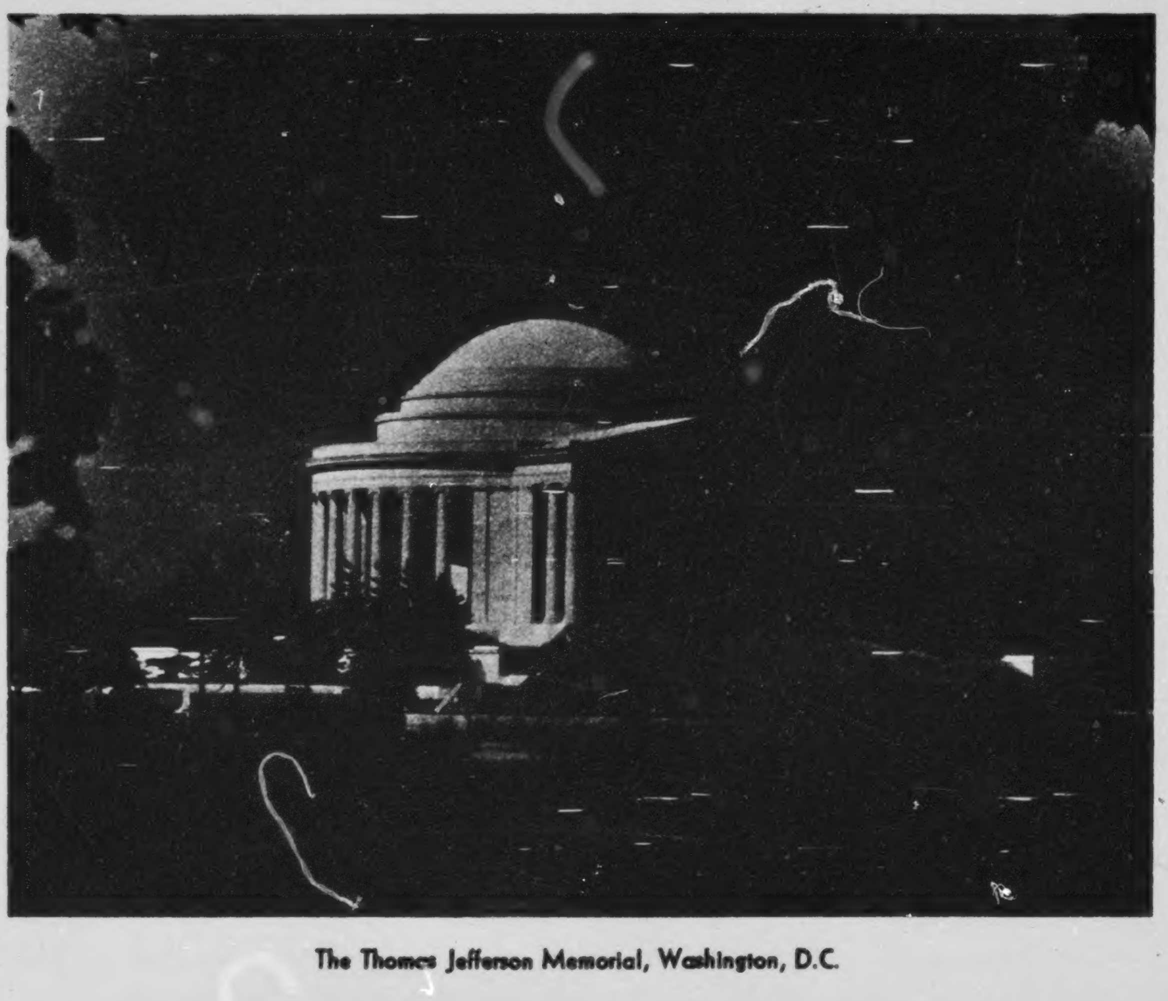
The colonists decided to hold a meeting to discuss their problems. All of the colonies except Georgia sent delegates to this meeting. It was held in Philadelphia in 1774. It was the First Continental Congress. They asked the King for their rights as Englishmen. The King refused. He called them traitors. The Second Continental Congress met in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1775. It decided that the colonists should fight Great Britain. This war was called the Revolutionary War, or the War for Independence.

George Washington was appointed to lead the soldiers. He became their commander-in-chief. Freedom-loving people from many countries came to help the colonists. Lafayette, Rochambeau, and German-born DeKalb came from France; Pulaski and Kosciusko from Poland; and Von Steuben from Germany. They knew Washington did not have trained soldiers. They helped train and lead the colonial soldiers.

These men who helped the United States in its struggle for independence had high hopes for the nation's future. They wanted it to be strong and respected, and they wanted its citizens to be happy under the new government.

In January 1776 Thomas Paine, an English immigrant, wrote the pamphlet, *Common Sense*. Paine's words excited the people. As they read his pamphlet and listened to his ideas, more and more people talked about independence.

The colonists decided to free themselves from Great Britain. They wanted their own government. A committee was appointed to write a Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and others were members of the committee. Jefferson wrote most of the Declaration. On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. The colonies declared themselves to be free. They became separate states. This is how our new nation began. Since then, we celebrate the 4th of July as Independence Day.



The Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.

Washington Leading His Army

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Select the correct word for each blank:

Words

1. Thanksgiving
2. Indians
3. Virginia
4. freedom
5. Holland

Sentences

a. The first English colony was in __________.
b. The Pilgrims wanted religious __________.
c. The Pilgrims went to __________ first.
d. The Pilgrims were helped by the __________.
e. At the end of November we celebrate the holiday of __________.

6. Pulaski
7. commander in chief
8. Declaration of Independence
9. Continental Congress

f. The Declaration of Independence was written by members of the Second ______________ ______________.
g. George Washington became the ______________ ______________ ______________ of the American army.
h. Thomas Jefferson wrote most of the ______________ ______________ ______________.
i. ______________ came from Poland to help the colonists.

Checking Vocabulary

Select the correct word for each blank:

Words

1. founded
2. struggled
3. declared
4. colonies
5. traitors
6. survived
7. worship
8. representatives

Sentences

a. Georgia was the last of the 13 ______________ to be settled.
b. The Pilgrims wanted to ______________ God in their own way.
c. The King called the colonists ______________ because they wanted their rights.
d. The colonists ______________ to be free.
e. Those who ______________ had a big feast.
f. By the Declaration of Independence the colonists ______________ themselves to be free from Great Britain.
g. Jamestown was ______________ in 1607.
h. The ______________ discussed plans of government.

Discussion

1. How have the people made this nation great?
2. In what ways was life difficult for our settlers?
3. From what countries did men come to help the colonists in their fight for freedom?
4. Why is the 4th of July called Independence Day?

Chapter 10

THE GROWTH OF DEMOCRACY

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

This chapter tells what democracy is and how our form of government became more democratic. After reading this chapter, you should know:

- How democracy works in a family.
- How the colonists developed democracy.
- How the Constitution came to be written.
- Why we have a democracy in this country.

Word Study

Read the sentences below and see whether you can tell what each underlined word means:

1. A person can express his opinion by writing a letter to the mayor or the governor.
2. There are 26 amendments to the Constitution.
3. You can keep informed about government by reading the newspapers and listening to the radio.
4. Our country is a Union of 50 states.
5. Amendments extended the rights of the people.
6. Before an amendment can be passed, three-fourths of the states must consent to the change.
7. Rhode Island did not send a delegate to the convention.

Talk About

What does the word "democracy" mean to you?

THE GROWTH OF DEMOCRACY

People say that we in the United States live in a "democracy." Sometimes they say we live in a "democratic" country. Have you ever wondered exactly what was meant when they used these words?

The dictionary says democracy is "government by the people." We see examples of this kind of government every day in our family and in our social life.

Someone in the family suggests buying a television set. Mother says what she thinks. So does father. The children express their opinions, too. They discuss whether a television set is really needed, whether the family can afford it, and what kind to buy. Finally, they all reach a decision. They will buy a TV set on the weekend. They will go to select the one they like.

Let us stop for a moment and see what happened in this family before they bought the television set:

First:	Somebody had an idea. He talked about this idea to other members of the group.
Second:	The other members talked about the idea and expressed their opinions.
Third:	A decision was reached.
Fourth:	The decision was carried out.

In other words, government in this family was by the people in the family. It was democratic.

In the same way, government in the United States is democratic. However, there is one difference. All people cannot, as this family did, meet in one place to discuss their ideas and vote on laws. Therefore, they elect representatives in the Federal, state, and city governments to do this for them. These representatives are responsible to the people for what they do and say in government. If the people decide that their representatives are not doing what they wanted done, they may elect other representatives. Our democracy, in which the people choose the President and other representatives to act for them, is known as a republican form of government.

Democratic government began in America's earliest days and has continued to grow.

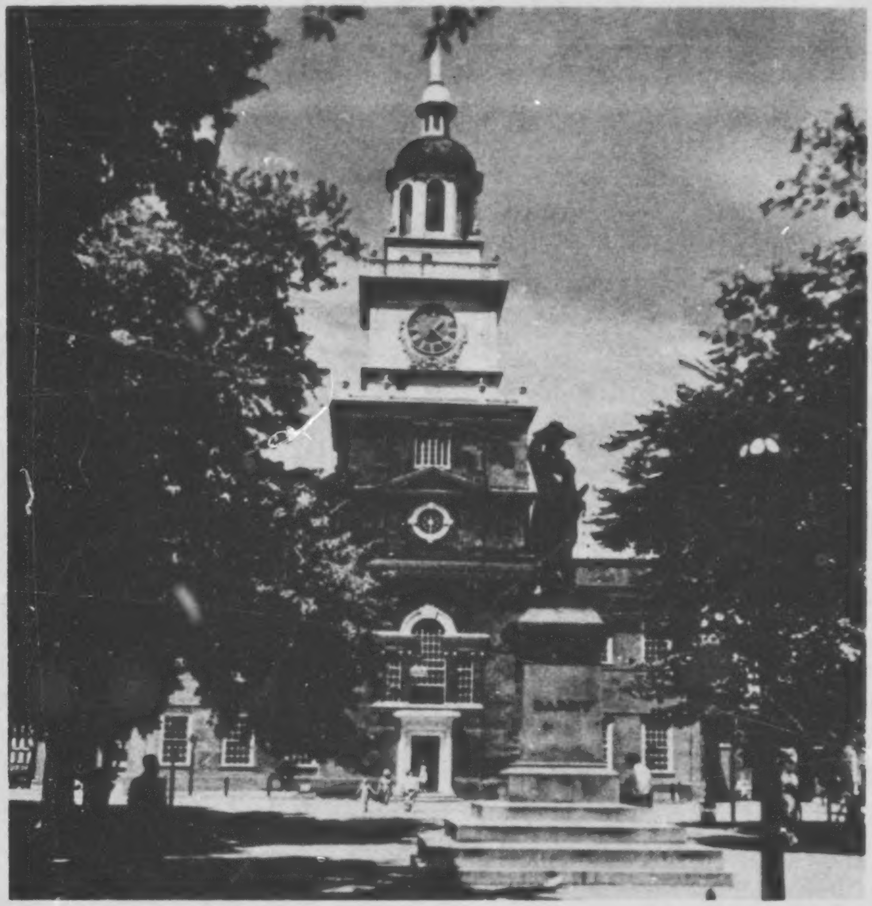
In 1620 the Pilgrims, even before they landed in America, agreed to govern themselves. While they were still on their little ship, the *Mayflower*, they wrote the Mayflower Compact. They set up their own government. In this Compact they agreed that all of them together would "frame just and equal laws."

Years later, in 1776, the descendants of the early colonists decided that they could not continue to live under British rule. They decided to separate from Great Britain and form their own government.

Their leaders signed the Declaration of Independence which said, ". . . governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed . . ." This means that in our country the people rule themselves, and that the government is the servant, not the master, of the people.

After the colonists had gained their independence from Great Britain, they had to form a new government. For months their representatives discussed different plans of government. The Continental Congress appointed a committee to make a plan. They drew up a plan for a central government. It was called the Articles of Confederation. It was accepted by all 13 states by 1781.

The United States had a Congress under the Articles. The Congress made the laws. It carried on the business of the government. But there was no President, and there were no courts to protect the rights of the people. The Congress did not have much power to carry on its work. The new union of states had no money and was in debt. This form of government under the Articles was not a success. The plan had not worked well.



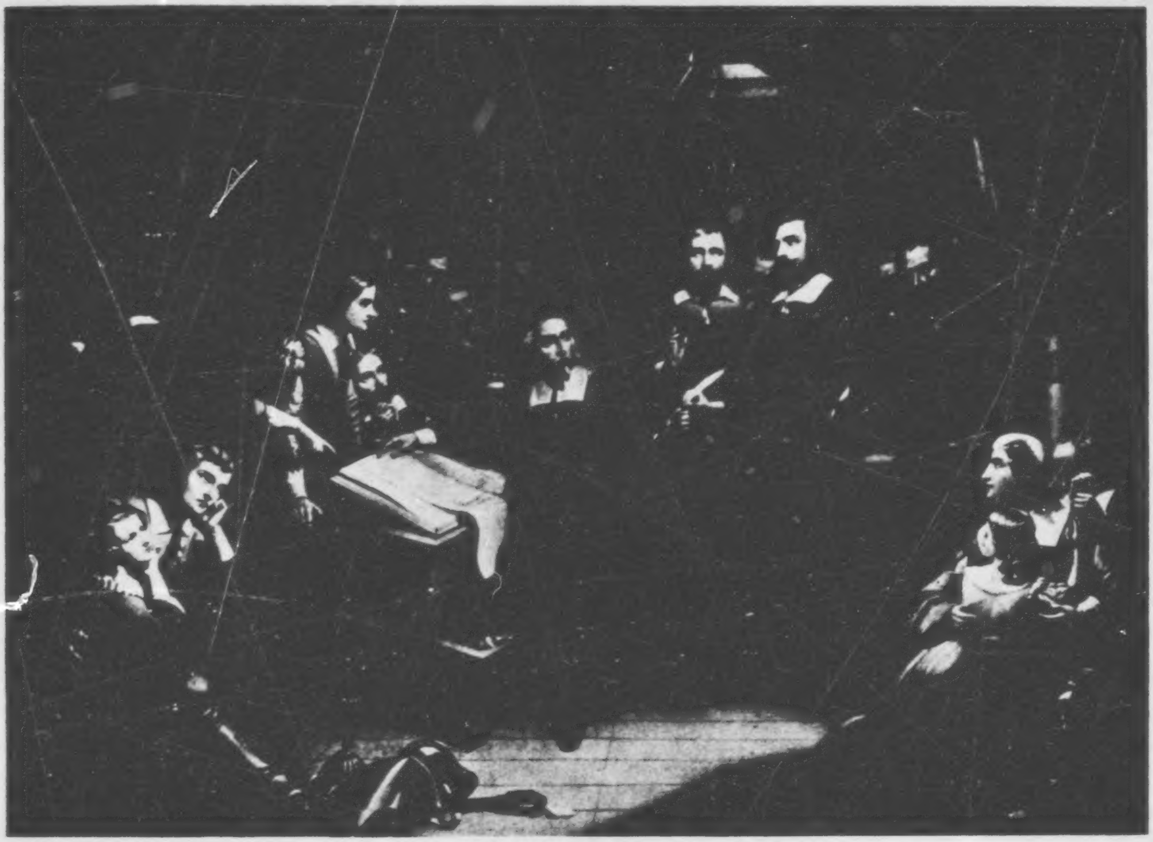
Independence Hall

Something had to be done. The very young United States had to create a form of government strong enough to protect itself against foreign enemies, and strong enough to solve its own domestic problems. The Congress asked the states to send delegates to a convention to change the Articles of Confederation.

This meeting, to plan for a new government, was called the Constitutional Convention. It met on May 25, 1787. The representatives elected George Washington as their chairman. All but one state, Rhode Island, sent delegates to this convention. Among the delegates who helped to write the Constitution of the United States were such important men as Benjamin Franklin, James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and Gouverneur Morris. The delegates decided that they could not change the Articles of Confederation. They needed a new plan of government. They began to write one.

On September 17, 1787, the delegates completed their work and signed the new plan. The convention asked that the people of the states elect delegates to vote on the new Constitution. The people, through their delegates, later approved the Constitution. The Constitution of the United States became the law of the land. It went into effect in 1789. The first real government of the new nation had begun.

The Constituion has grown since 1787. Since it was written, 26 amendments have been added. Many of these have extended democratic privileges to new groups of people. We can keep this democracy alive and strong if we keep informed about our government, obey the laws, and vote in every election. By doing these things, we become a part of what Abraham Lincoln called ". . . government of the people, by the people, for the people . . ."



The Mayflower Compact

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

List the other three steps in democratic government. The first one has been done for you.

1. Getting an idea
2.
3.
4.

What are three things that citizens can do to keep American democracy alive? One has been done for you.

1. Keep informed about Federal, state, and local governments
2.
3.

Checking Vocabulary

Match each word with its meaning:

Words	Meanings
1. express	a. spread
2. amendment	b. a group of people joined together for a common purpose or cause
3. informed	c. to say or write what you think
4. union	d. change or addition
5. consent	e. to know about
6. extend	f. to say "yes"
7. delegate	g. representative

Discussion

1. How does a democracy work?
2. Should a family make decisions democratically? Why?
3. Why were the Articles of Confederation weak?
4. Why did the 13 states want to form a union?
5. Who were some of the leaders at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787?

Chapter 11

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

After the Revolutionary War a group of men in our country had the problem of planning a government. They were successful in drawing up a plan that has lasted, with few changes, to the present day. This plan is called the Constitution of the United States of America. Our Constitution is admired by people all over the world.

We learned that both citizens and aliens enjoy the protection of the United States Constitution. Every American citizen should be proud of this great plan of government. Read the chapter and see whether you can answer these questions:

- Why was the Constitution written?
- How can the Constitution be changed?
- What is the Bill of Rights?

Word Study

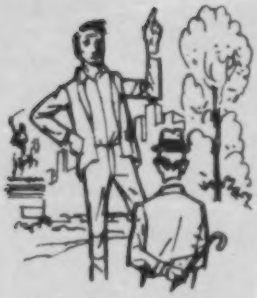
See if you can explain the meaning of the underlined words:

1. The Constitution is the supreme law of our land.
2. The Constitution prohibits too large fines.
3. One of the purposes of the Constitution was to provide unity among the states.
4. The Constitution of the United States established a new plan of government in 1787.
5. Thinking of the future, the writers of the Constitution provided for posterity.
6. The President spoke about domestic problems such as housing and taxes.
7. A law that is called unconstitutional by the Supreme Court is a law that does not agree with the Constitution.
8. The writers of the Constitution wanted to insure tranquility among the quarreling states.
9. In 1865 slavery in the United States was abolished.

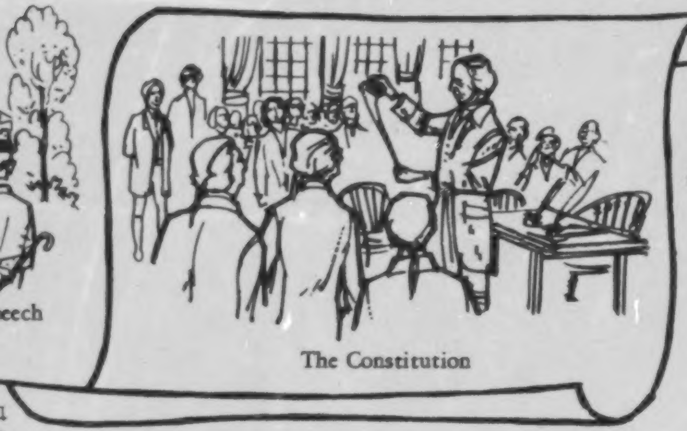
Talk About

Is a constitution necessary for a country? Why?

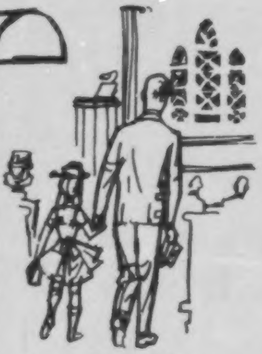
SOME IMPORTANT RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION



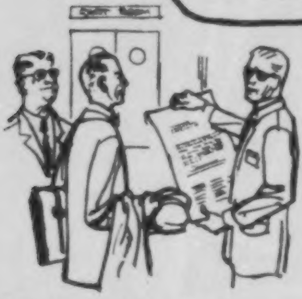
Freedom of Speech



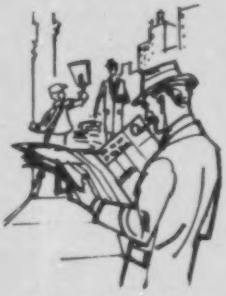
The Constitution



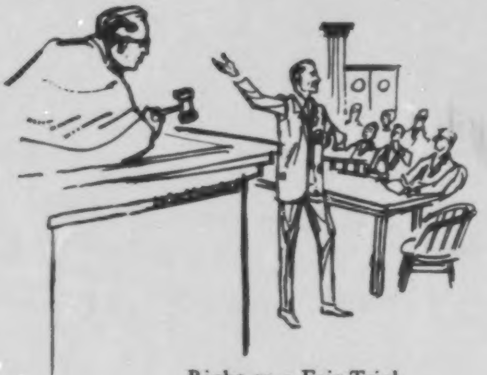
Freedom of Worship



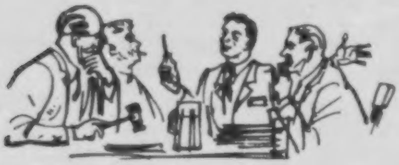
Right to Petition the Government



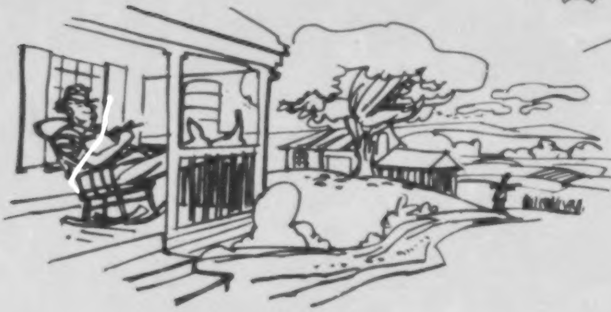
Freedom of the Press



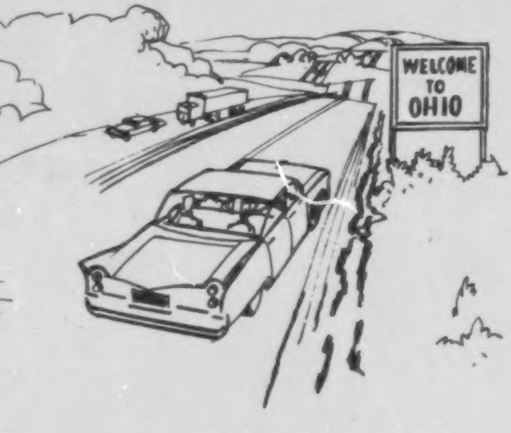
Right to a Fair Trial



Freedom to Meet Peaceably



Right to Hold Property

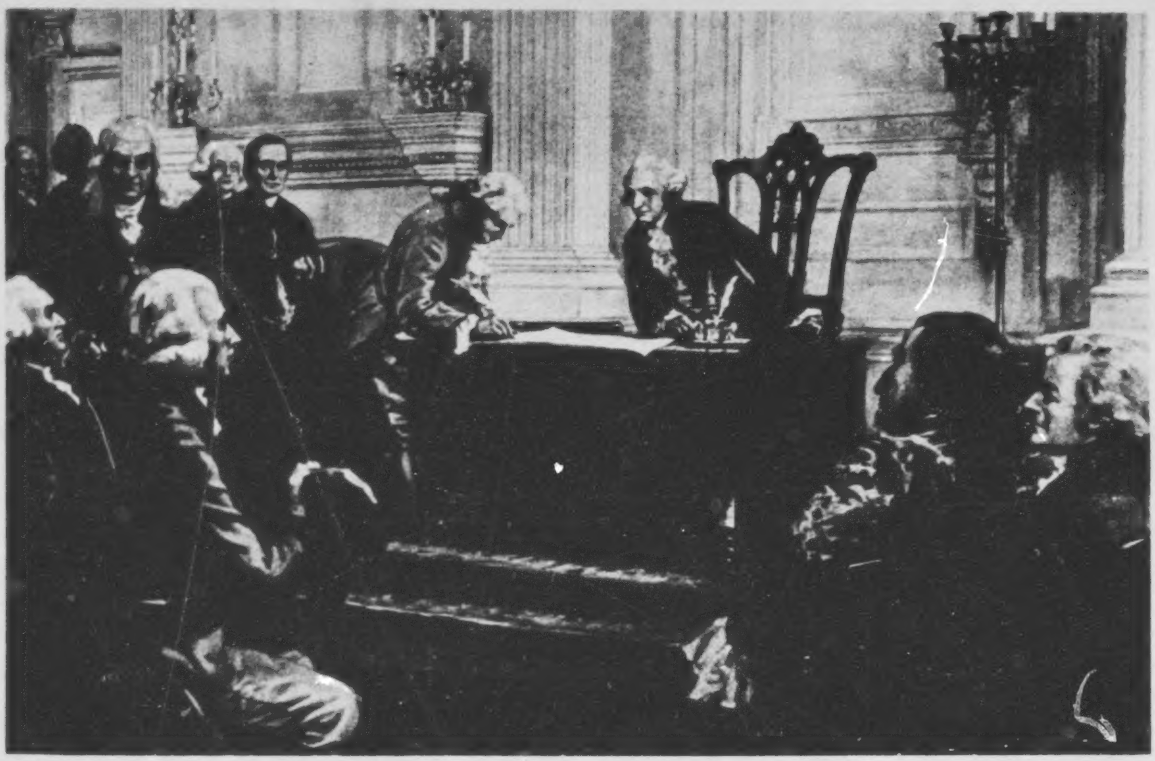


Right to Life and Liberty

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE BILL OF RIGHTS

The Constitution of the United States is the highest law of our land. This is the way it begins:

> We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



Signing of the Constitution

This is known as the Preamble to the Constitution. It tells what our leaders had in mind when they wrote the Constitution. They said the Constitution was to be for all the people of the United States. They wanted to provide a good life for everyone. They made it clear that their children and their children's children—posterity—were to enjoy this life.

Our leaders wanted to give the people a better plan of government. They wanted the people to have fair laws and justice. They wanted to stop quarrels among the states. The makers of the Constitution hoped that the people would enjoy peace and freedom.

These were among the things which they wanted to provide for when they wrote the Constitution.

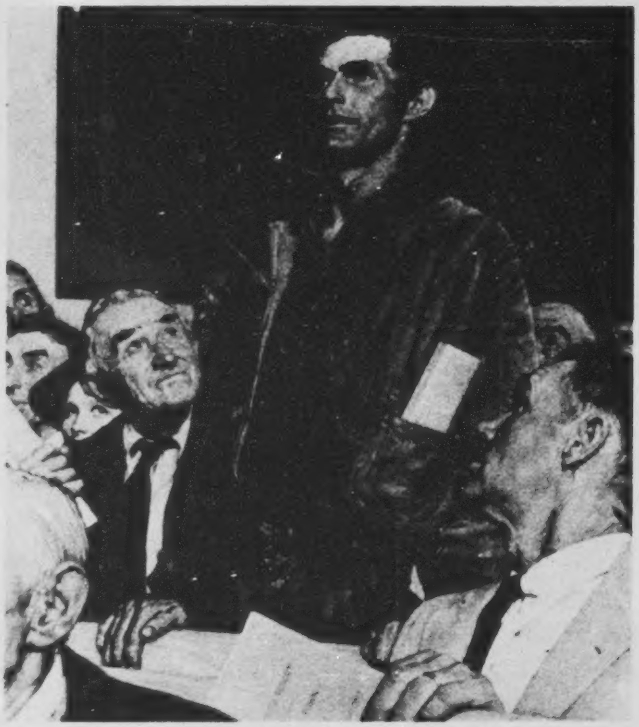
The Constitution tells us how our Federal government is organized. It divides the government into three branches and tells how these branches work together. One of the branches makes laws for the country. Another branch carries out these laws. The third branch decides what these laws mean.

The Constitution states what powers each branch of the government has, and how officials in each branch are elected or appointed. It divides the government between the Federal government and the state governments. State governments are given many powers not granted to the Federal government.

Our government has been built on this supreme law. We still live under this law which has lasted for more than 185 years. All other laws which have been passed since the Constitution was approved have had to agree with it. Sometimes Congress passes a law that does not agree with the meaning of the Constitution. Such a law is said to be "unconstitutional" and no longer has to be followed.

The men who wrote the Constitution wanted this form of government to last for many years. They were wise men. They knew that the country would change as the years passed. People would get new ideas and living conditions would change. To meet new needs, they provided that the Constitution could be changed.

Changes in the Constitution are called amendments. An amendment is added to the Constitution. When it is added, it be-



Freedom of Speech

comes part of the Constitution. An amendment can be added to the Constitution only when it has been approved by three-fourths of the states.

We have amended the Constitution 26 times. It was amended because of changes in our way of living and thinking.

After the Constitution was written, many people wanted to make sure that their freedoms were protected. They asked for amendments that would prevent the government from taking away their rights and liberties. By the end of 1791, ten amendments were added to the Constitution. We call these first ten amendments the Bill of Rights. They guarantee many important rights and freedoms. Four of our most important rights are in the First Amendment: freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the right to meet and talk about what we think the government should do. This amendment also gives the people the right to ask the government to change the laws.

Because we have freedom of religion, we can go to the church we choose. The government cannot tell us to join or to go to a particular church.

Free speech lets us say what we think. However, we do not have a right to say things that are not true. A free press lets us print what we wish to print, if it is not false.

Other amendments in the Bill of Rights also protect our rights. They protect our rights in our homes, our lives, and our property. Our rights to a lawyer and a fair trial by jury are guaranteed. Unfair punishment for a crime is not allowed. We are free to marry, own property, and send our children to school.

Some of our rights are named in amendments that were passed after the Bill of Rights. At the close of the Civil War, three amendments were added. The Thirteenth Amendment, added in 1865, ended slavery. The Fourteenth Amendment declared that all persons born or naturalized in the United States are citizens. The Fifteenth Amendment protects the right of citizens to vote regardless of race or color.

The Nineteenth Amendment, added in 1920, gave women the right to vote. The Twenty-third Amendment, which was added in 1961, allows citizens who live in the District of Columbia, our capital, to vote for the President and the Vice President. The Twenty-fourth amendment, added in 1964, allows citizens to vote for the President, the Vice President, and members of the Congress, without having to pay a voting tax. The Twenty-sixth Amendment extends the right to vote to citizens eighteen years of age or older.

These are rights given to free men and women—the people in a democracy. They are rights for which men and women have been willing to fight. They belong to all the people, and not to only a few. We must let our neighbor go to the church he chooses. We must let him speak, even if we do not agree with what he says. We must allow the news to be printed in the newspapers. In every way, we must let others enjoy the same rights we have.

AMENDMENTS PASSED AFTER THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Eleventh Amendment (1795)

A citizen of one state, or an alien, cannot sue another state in a Federal court.

Twelfth Amendment (1804)

Electors must vote for President and Vice President separately.

Thirteenth Amendment (1865)

Ended slavery.

Fourteenth Amendment (1868)

All persons born or naturalized in the United States are citizens.

Fifteenth Amendment (1870)

No person can be kept from voting because of race or color.

Sixteenth Amendment (1913)

Congress has the power to put a tax on money earned by the people.

Seventeenth Amendment (1913)

Senators are to be elected by the people.

Eighteenth Amendment (1919)

Prohibited the making, selling or transportation of intoxicating liquor.

Nineteenth Amendment (1920)

No person can be kept from voting because of being a woman.

Twentieth Amendment (1933)

The President, the Vice President, and the Congress shall take office in January.

Twenty-first Amendment (1933)

Did away with the Eighteenth Amendment.

Twenty-second Amendment (1951)

The same person cannot be elected President more than twice.

Twenty-third Amendment (1961)

Citizens living in the District of Columbia can vote for President and Vice President.

Twenty-fourth Amendment (1964)

Citizens cannot be made to pay a tax to vote for the President, the Vice President or members of the Congress.

Twenty-fifth Amendment (1967)

The Vice President becomes Acting President when the President is disabled.

Twenty-sixth Amendment (1971)

A citizen shall not be denied the right to vote because of age if he is eighteen years of age or older.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

True or False. Give a reason for your answer.

______ 1. The Constitution of the United States tells how many branches there shall be in the Federal government.
______ 2. The Constitution is our supreme law.
______ 3. The Constitution cannot be changed.
______ 4. Women in the United States cannot vote.
______ 5. The Bill of Rights does not apply to all people.
______ 6. The government can tell you to go to a certain church.

Decide which is the right answer.

1. The Constitution of the United States was written in
   1492.
   1787.
   1776.
2. The first ten amendments to the Constitution are called the
   Bill of Rights.
   Declaration of Independence.
   United States government.
3. Our Constitution has
   10 amendments.
   18 amendments.
   26 amendments.

Show how the amendments listed below extended democracy. One has been done for you.

13th Amendment—abolished slavery.
14th Amendment
15th Amendment
19th Amendment
23rd Amendment
26th Amendment

Checking Vocabulary

Tell what the underlined words mean as you talk about:

1. How the Constitution provided for posterity.
2. How the Constitution established a new government.
3. What makes a law unconstitutional.
4. How the Constitution provided for domestic tranquility among the 13 states.

5. How the Constitution provided for unity among the 13 states.
6. How the Constitution prohibits unfair trials.
7. Why taxation is a domestic problem.
8. Why there must be a supreme law of the land, like the Constitution.

Discussion

1. How has the Constitution kept up with changing times?
2. Why are the first ten amendments to the Constitution called the Bill of Rights?
3. How does the Constitution provide for justice for all people?

Chapter 12

THE ORGANIZATION OF OUR GOVERNMENT

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

This chapter tells how the Federal, state, and city governments are organized. As you read, notice how all levels of government in the United States are divided into three branches. Look for the answers to these questions:

- What are the three branches of government in the United States?
- What does each branch do?
- What does the President's Cabinet do?
- What kinds of city governments are there in the United States?
- Who chooses the judges in the Federal courts?

Word Study

Study the sentences below. They will help you understand the underlined words.

1. The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest judicial body in our country.
2. The governor of a state and the mayor of a city are examples of executive officers.
3. The President is the principal executive officer in the United States.
4. Route 1 is a highway that goes from Maine to Florida.
5. The police in every city enforce traffic laws.
6. The House of Representatives and the Senate are the two legislative Houses of our Federal government.
7. In our neighborhood the sanitation department collects trash every Tuesday.
8. City commissions usually have from three to five members.
9. An automobile is a motor vehicle.

Talk About

Who is an executive of a company? How is he like the governor of your state?

THE ORGANIZATION OF OUR GOVERNMENT

Our Constitution was wisely planned. The members of the Constitutional Convention wanted to be sure that no group of men would have complete power. For this reason the convention divided the government into three branches.

Since 1787 the United States government has been organized into these three separate parts or branches. Each branch has its own special duties. The legislative branch, or Congress, makes the laws. Congress has two Houses: the Senate and the House of Representatives. The second branch sees to it that the laws are carried out. This is the executive branch. The President is the head of this branch. The third branch decides cases and explains and interprets the laws. This is the judicial branch. Its highest court is called the Supreme Court of the United States.

This division of the government, with each branch having its own powers, is called separation of powers. The Constitution makes it possible for each branch to check the others. This system makes certain that no branch can become too powerful. For example, the President may veto a law passed by the Congress; the Senate may refuse to confirm an appointment to the Supreme Court made by the President; the Supreme Court may declare a law passed by Congress and signed by the President to be unconstitutional. This separation of powers permits each branch to check and balance the others.

We shall now learn about state and city governments and how they compare with the plan for the Federal government.

Congress makes our Federal laws. It has only the power given to it by the Constitution. Among the things Congress can do is make laws about taxes. It also has authority to declare war. The Congress decides how you can become a citizen. It

The Capitol

Courtesy, Abbie Rowe

President Johnson Witnessed the Adoption of the Twenty-fourth Amendment in 1964

makes laws concerning our post offices, trade, money, social security, farming, labor, and inventions.

The state legislatures make state laws. State laws concern things like state hospitals, state schools, state roads and highways, and motor vehicles within a state. A state also makes marriage and divorce laws, and says when licenses for jobs and professions are needed.

City legislatures, often called city councils, make the laws for cities. These laws concern city taxes, streets, parks, police and fire protection, sanitation, and other local matters.

The people give to one person, the President, the power to enforce the Federal laws. The President also manages the business of the Federal government. He is the most important executive officer in our country. The President and the Vice President are the only officers elected by votes of all the citizens. Both are elected for a term of 4 years. The President may be re-elected for one additional 4-year term. If the President is removed from office, dies or resigns, the Vice President becomes President until a new President is elected. If the President becomes disabled, the Vice President becomes Acting President until the President can resume his duties.

The President has many duties. He is head of our armed forces; he appoints persons to carry on the work of the Federal government; he appoints Federal judges, and lets Congress know what laws he thinks the country needs. The President has eleven executive departments to help him. The heads of these departments advise the President. They are called the President's Cabinet. The President appoints these officers with the approval of the Senate.

The Secretary of State has charge of foreign affairs.

The Secretary of the Treasury collects taxes and pays Federal government bills.

The Secretary of Defense manages the armed forces and handles all military affairs.

The Attorney General is head of the Department of Justice. He is the lawyer for the Federal government.

The Secretary of the Interior manages public lands.

The Secretary of Agriculture helps the farmers.

The Secretary of Commerce helps businessmen.

The Secretary of Labor helps people who work.

The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare takes care of the general needs of people, including social security.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development works to help develop our local communities, and to provide assistance for housing and home building.

The Secretary of Transportation works to provide improved and less expensive public and private means of transportation.

Each state is headed by a governor. He is the principal executive officer in his state. The governor is elected by the citizens of the state. He makes sure that the laws of the state are carried out and obeyed. He has executive officers to help him.

The executive officer who heads our cities is a mayor, a city manager, or a city commissioner. Some cities have more than one commissioner. There are heads of departments who help the executive officer carry out local laws.

Mayors and commissioners are usually elected. City managers are usually appointed by the city council.

The branch that explains laws and tries cases is the judicial branch. In the judicial branch there are Federal, state, and city courts. The courts explain our laws and protect our rights. When people cannot agree, they must have a way to settle their quarrels peaceably. The courts settle these quarrels. Courts also try persons accused of breaking the laws.

The Constitution establishes a system of courts. It names one court—the United States Supreme Court. But it gives the Congress the power to create other courts that may be needed.

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States. It meets in Washington, D.C., in the Supreme Court Building. The Supreme Court has nine justices. They are appointed by the President, with the approval of the Senate. They serve as justices for life.

One of the justices is selected to head the court. He is the Chief Justice. The other justices are called Associate Justices.

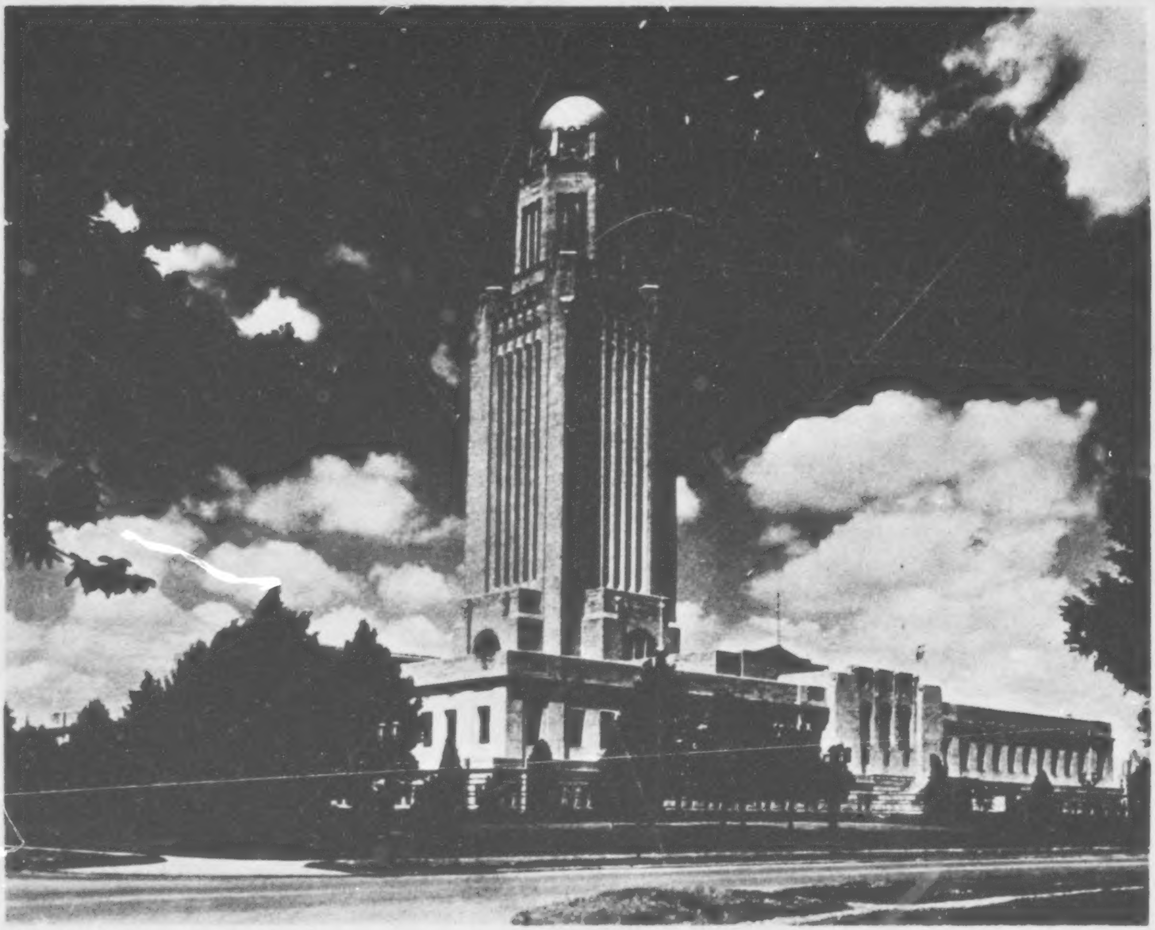
The justices hear a case together. The decision of more than half of the justices decides a case. When a decision is made, it is final. All other courts must follow the decisions of the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court Building, Washington, D.C.

The Congress cannot always be sure that the Constitution allows it to pass certain laws. Congress, or a state legislature, sometimes passes a law that takes away a right of the people or the state. A case involving such a law can be taken to the Supreme Court. The justices can decide that the Constitution does not give the legislature the right to pass that kind of a law. In such a case, the Supreme Court says that the law is "unconstitutional." The law does not then have to be followed.

Congress has made other courts which are lower than the Supreme Court. These are called Federal courts. The Constitution names the duties of these courts. Federal courts have the power to decide cases about rights of the people under the Constitution and under laws passed by the Congress.

Most cases in the Federal courts are first heard in United States district courts. These are the lowest Federal courts. If a person does not agree with the decision of the district court, he can take his case to a higher court. When he does this, he "appeals" the case. The next higher court is the court of appeals. Some kinds of cases can be taken from a court of appeals to the Supreme Court.



The Nebraska Statehouse Where the State Supreme Court Meets

Each state has a system of courts. These courts help to explain the laws of the state. They also try persons who are accused of having broken state laws. They hear cases about personal rights and property. Like the Federal government, the states have higher and lower courts.

Each city has some kind of court. It explains the laws made by the local government. It also tries cases of persons accused of breaking local laws.

It is the duty of every person to obey the laws as explained by the courts.

The following chart shows how the three branches of the governments of our cities, states, and nation are much alike. Study it carefully.

	Federal	**State**	**City**
Legislative Branch	**Congress—Senate and House of Representatives.**	**State legislature—two houses in all states except Nebraska.**	**City council or commission.**
Executive Branch	**President, Vice President and President's Cabinet.**	**Governor and governor's assistants.**	**Mayor or city manager or city commission, and assistants.**
Judicial Branch	**Supreme Court, Federal courts.**	**State courts.**	**City courts.**

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Complete each sentence:

Words

1. eleven
2. Senate
3. executive
4. approval
5. House of Representatives
6. legislative
7. Cabinet
8. judicial
9. Supreme
10. Vice President
11. governor

Sentences

a. The three branches of our Federal government are __________, __________, and __________.
b. The Secretary of State is a member of the President's __________.
c. The chief executive of a state is the __________.
d. The __________ Court is our highest Federal court.
e. There are __________ heads of departments in the President's Cabinet.
f. The __________ becomes President if the President should die.
g. The President appoints the members of the Supreme Court with the __________ of the Senate.
h. The two legislative houses of the Federal government are the __________ and the __________.

Tell in which branch of the government each person belongs. The first two have been done for you.

1. Mayor	executive
2. Congressman	legislative
3. Secretary of the Treasury	
4. Federal judge	
5. City magistrate	
6. Governor's assistant	
7. Police	
8. State senator	
9. State judge	
10. City alderman	

Checking Vocabulary

Select the correct word to complete the sentence:

(labor.)
1. The Secretary of State has charge of (foreign affairs.)
(farmers.)

(legislative)
2. The (executive) branch of the government explains laws.
(judicial)

(highest)
3. The Supreme Court is the (legislative) court of this country.
(executive)

(commission)
4. A (legislature) is a small group of men who head a city government.
(Congress)

(pass)
5. The police of our state (veto) traffic laws on the highways.
(enforce)

(judicial)
6. The United States Senate is one of the two (executive) bodies of our nation.
(legislative)

(legislative)
7. The (sanitation) department takes care of trash collection.
(police)

Discussion

1. Why does each President appoint his own Cabinet?
2. What are some of the executive departments of your state government?
3. What check does the Supreme Court have over the Congress?

Chapter 13

LAWS AND LAWMAKERS

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

This chapter tells how laws are made in our great democratic country. As you read the chapter, you should be able to answer these questions:

- Why does Congress have two Houses? Who chooses the men and women in each?
- How does a bill become a law?

Word Study

Study the sentences below. They will help you understand the underlined words.

1. Congress completes its work in late summer or early fall.
2. Legislatures are lawmaking bodies.
3. Freedom is basic to our system of government.
4. The population of the United States increased rapidly between 1750 and 1789.
5. A bill is a written suggestion for a new law.
6. The President will veto a bill when he thinks it is not good for the people.
7. If a class has 35 students, 18 or more of the students make a majority.
8. Several small states have only one district.

Talk About

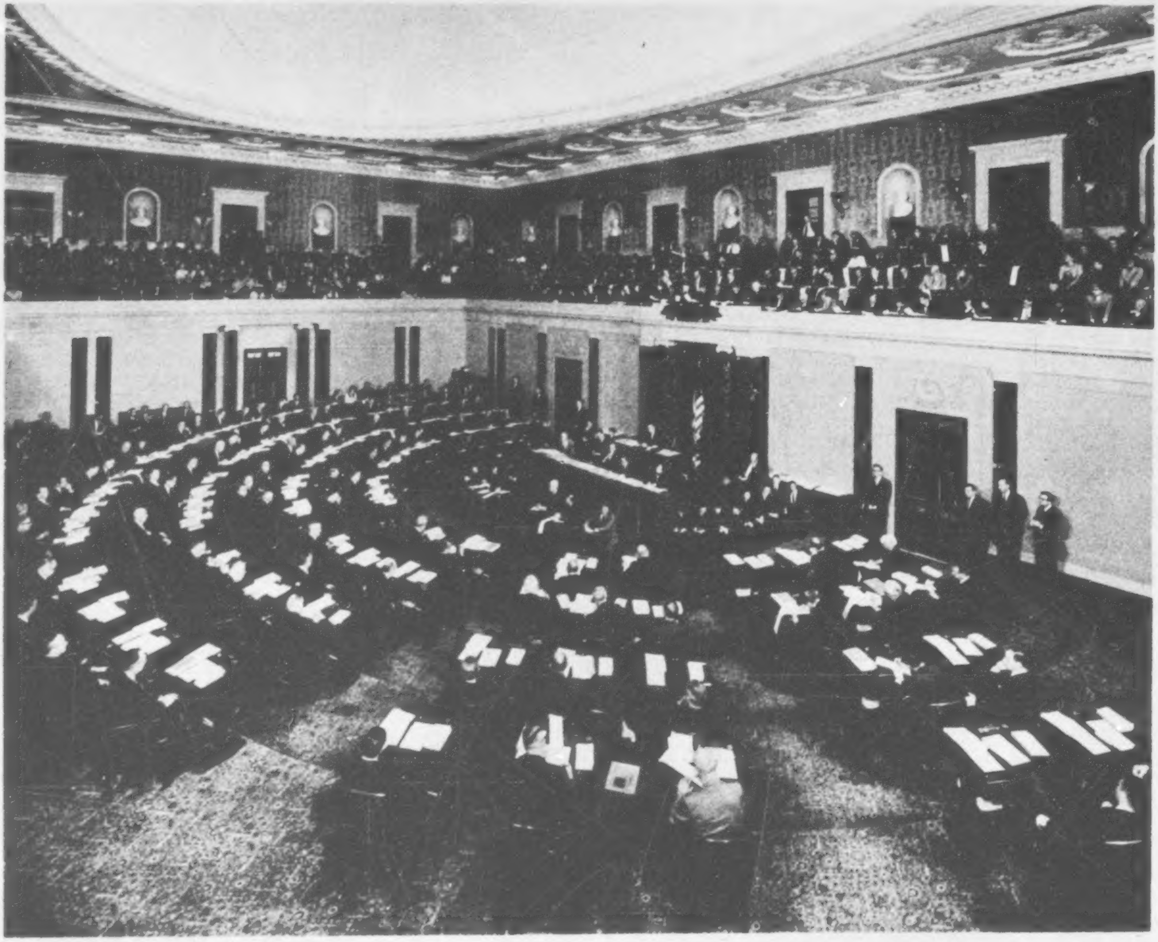
Why are laws important?

LAWS AND LAWMAKERS

At the Constitutional Convention in 1787, representatives from the large and small states argued about the matter of representation in Congress. They knew that representation in Congress was an important issue. The men who were elected to Congress would be responsible for the laws made for the new nation. The delegates from the larger states wanted their states to have more representatives in Congress. Those from the smaller states said that, since all of the states were equal, each should have the same number of representatives. Finally, a compromise was reached. It was agreed that Congress should be made up of two Houses. Each state, regardless of its size, would have two representatives in one of the Houses. In the other House, the number of representatives from each state would depend upon its population.

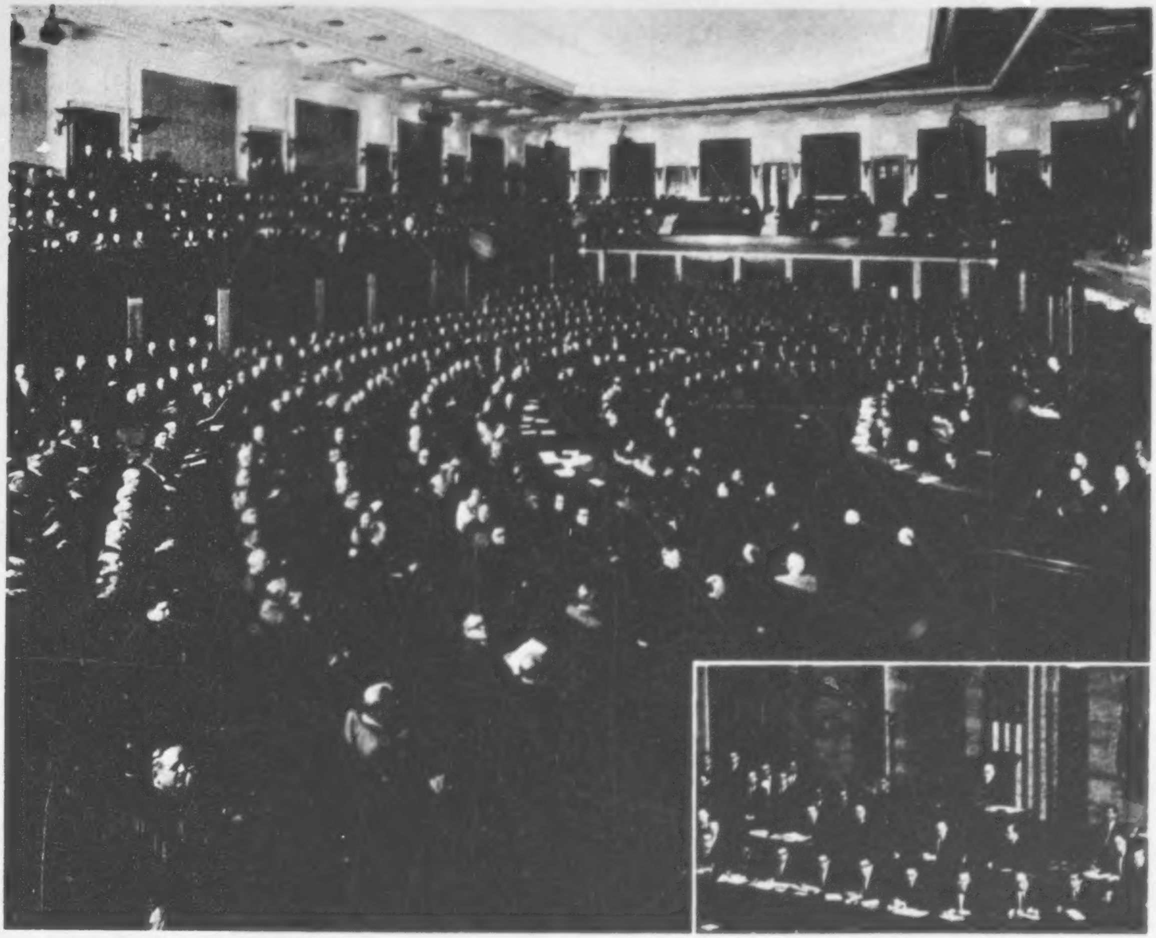
The men who wrote the Constitution put the compromise into the new plan of government. One House of Congress would be known as the Senate. The other would be called the House of Representatives. It is now commonly called the "House." Each Senator and each Representative would have only one vote. Both the Senate and the House were given equal powers in making the laws.

Our Constitution says that every state shall have two United States Senators. In this way, each state has equal representation in the Senate. There are 100 Senators in the Congress, representing the 50 states. Senators are elected by the people. A Senator must be at least 30 years old, a resident of his state and a United States citizen for at least 9 years. Senators are elected to serve their states for 6 years.



Courtesy, United States Capitol Historical Society

The Senate in Session



Courtesy, United States Capitol Historical Society

The House of Representatives in Session

Senators may be re-elected. The "President" of the Senate is the Vice President of the United States. He may vote in the Senate only in case of a tie.

The House of Representatives has 435 members. The members, elected by the people, are called either Representatives or Congressmen. Each state is represented according to its population. States with a large population have more Representatives than states with fewer people. Some states have only one Representative. One state has as many as 43 Representatives. As the population of a state increases or decreases, the number of Representatives may change.

A Representative must be at least 25 years old and a citizen of the United States for at least 7 years. A Representative is elected for 2 years, and may be re-elected. He represents the people in the district of the state which elected him. The House of Representatives chooses its own chief officer. He is known as the Speaker of the House.

A Committee of the Senate in Session

The Congress meets in the Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. Its business is legislation, or the making of laws. It is important to understand how laws are made. A new law begins first as a "bill." A bill is a suggested law. Some bills are recommended by the President. Thousands of bills are introduced by Senators and Representatives every year. All members of the Congress cannot study every bill that is started. In order that all bills may be carefully studied, committees are appointed. Each committee has a chairman. The real work in getting a bill ready to become a law is done by the committee. Each committee studies one special kind of bill. Persons who are for the bill and those who are against it are heard.

The committee may decide that the bill should be made into a law. It asks the members of its House to pass the bill. The members of that House may then pass it by a majority vote. The bill is then sent to the other House. If it passes there, the bill is sent to the President. If he signs it within 10 days, the bill becomes a law. The President may hold the bill longer than 10 days. If he does, it becomes a law without his signature. If Congress adjourns during the 10 days the President has the bill, it does not become a law unless he signs it.

The President may not agree with the

bill and veto it. This means that he refuses to sign it. When he vetoes a bill, the President tells the Congress why he is against it. Congress may then pass the bill against the wishes of the President. This time, the bill must pass both Houses of Congress by a two-thirds majority vote before it can become a law.

This system of lawmaking has worked well from the very beginning. In fact, state and local governments make their laws in much the same way. It gives us a strong President, but not one so strong that he can run the country by himself. It gives us a strong legislature (Congress) that can overrule the President when necessary. But the real power lies with the voters who elect our Congress as well as our President. Through elections the people make the basic decisions in our democratic form of government.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

1. Where does the real power of government lie in the United States?
2. How long does a Senator serve? A Congressman?
3. When is a majority vote necessary? A two-thirds vote?
4. What is a Presidential veto?
5. Who is the chief officer of the Senate? The House?
6. What is the work of a committee of the Congress?

Checking Vocabulary

Choose the proper word for each blank space:

Words

1. completed
2. bill
3. vetoes
4. district
5. legislature
6. basic
7. majority

Sentences

a. A Representative is elected by the people in his __________.

b. The President did not like the __________ passed by Congress.

c. When the President signs a bill, the lawmaking process has been __________.

d. The President usually tells why he __________ a bill.

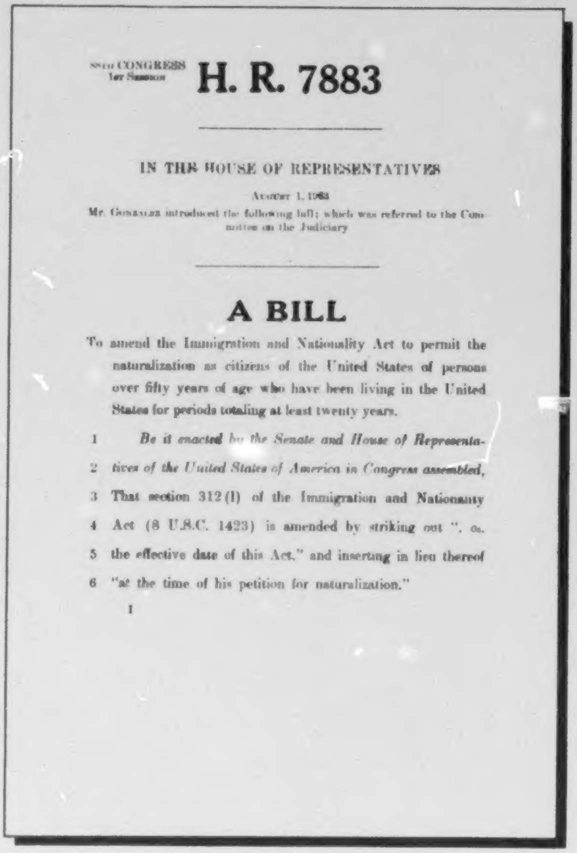
e. The laws of the land are made by the __________.

f. A candidate who receives more than half of the votes has a __________.

g. The writers of the Constitution gave us our __________ law.

Discussion

How can citizens make sure that their Senators and Congressmen make good laws?



88th CONGRESS
1st Session

H. R. 7883

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 1, 1963

Mr. Gonzalez introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

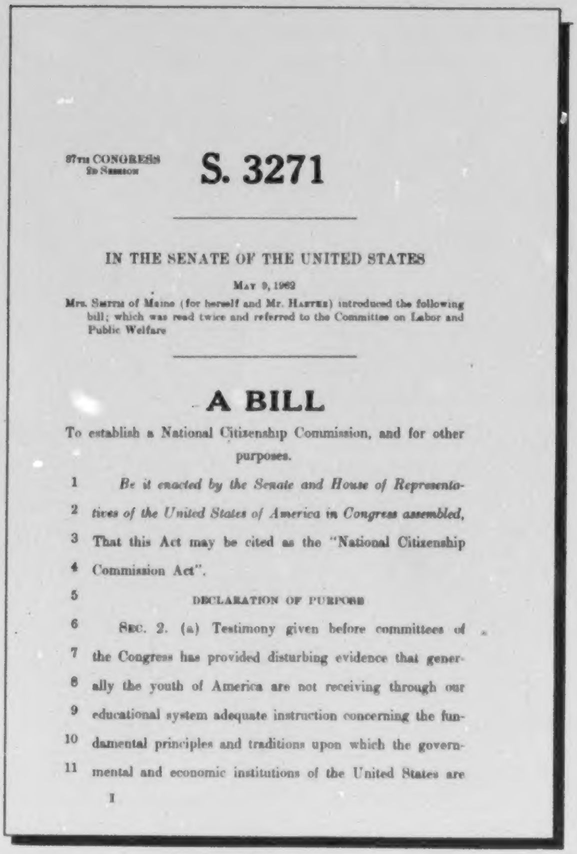
A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit the naturalization as citizens of the United States of persons over fifty years of age who have been living in the United States for periods totaling at least twenty years.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 312(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423) is amended by striking out ", on the effective date of this Act," and inserting in lieu thereof "at the time of his petition for naturalization."

I

House Bill



87th CONGRESS
2d Session

S. 3271

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 9, 1962

Mrs. Smith of Maine (for herself and Mr. Hartke) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

A BILL

To establish a National Citizenship Commission, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "National Citizenship Commission Act".

DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

Sec. 2. (a) Testimony given before committees of the Congress has provided disturbing evidence that generally the youth of America are not receiving through our educational system adequate instruction concerning the fundamental principles and traditions upon which the governmental and economic institutions of the United States are

I

Senate Bill

Chapter 14

THE UNITED STATES BECOMES A WORLD POWER

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

When George Washington left office in 1797, he made a farewell address to his countrymen. In it he warned the people to avoid struggles between political parties. He also asked them to avoid fights between sections of the country. Finally, he told them to stay out of wars with other countries.

History shows that the American people failed to take Washington's advice. This was not because they did not respect him. It was because no one, not even Washington, could know what problems would face a growing nation.

As you read, you will learn how:

- Our country grew in size and population.
- Some of our political parties began and grew.
- The United States became a world power.

Word Study

Read the sentences below. Make sure that you understand the underlined words.

1. Vermont was the first new state admitted to the Union.
2. The census of 1790 showed a population of almost four million people.
3. John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon were rivals for the office of President in 1960.
4. After the war, the two nations signed a peace treaty.
5. The Louisiana Territory became part of the United States.
6. The United States and Russia are world powers.
7. George Washington and Abraham Lincoln fought for the cause of freedom.
8. There was a disagreement between the United States and Great Britain over the Oregon boundary.

Talk About

How can a great power like the United States contribute to world peace?

THE UNITED STATES BECOMES A WORLD POWER

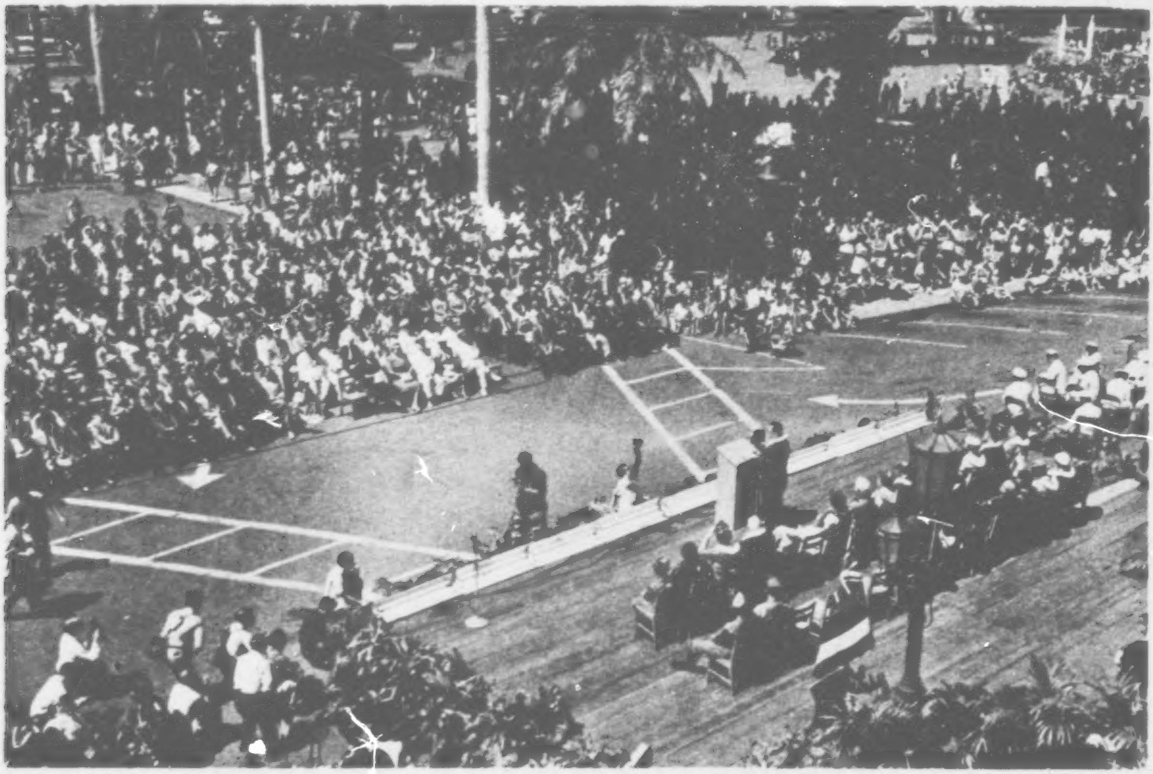
George Washington became the first President of the United States on April 30, 1789. It was on this day that he placed his hand on a Bible and said, "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." It was then that our country began to govern itself under the new Constitution.

How our country grew in size and how became a world power is an exciting story.

When Washington became President our country had 13 states. These states were a part of a narrow strip, about 1000 miles long, on our eastern coast. A census (population count) taken in 1790 showed that less than four million people lived in this area. The latest census shows that over 200 million people live in the United States.

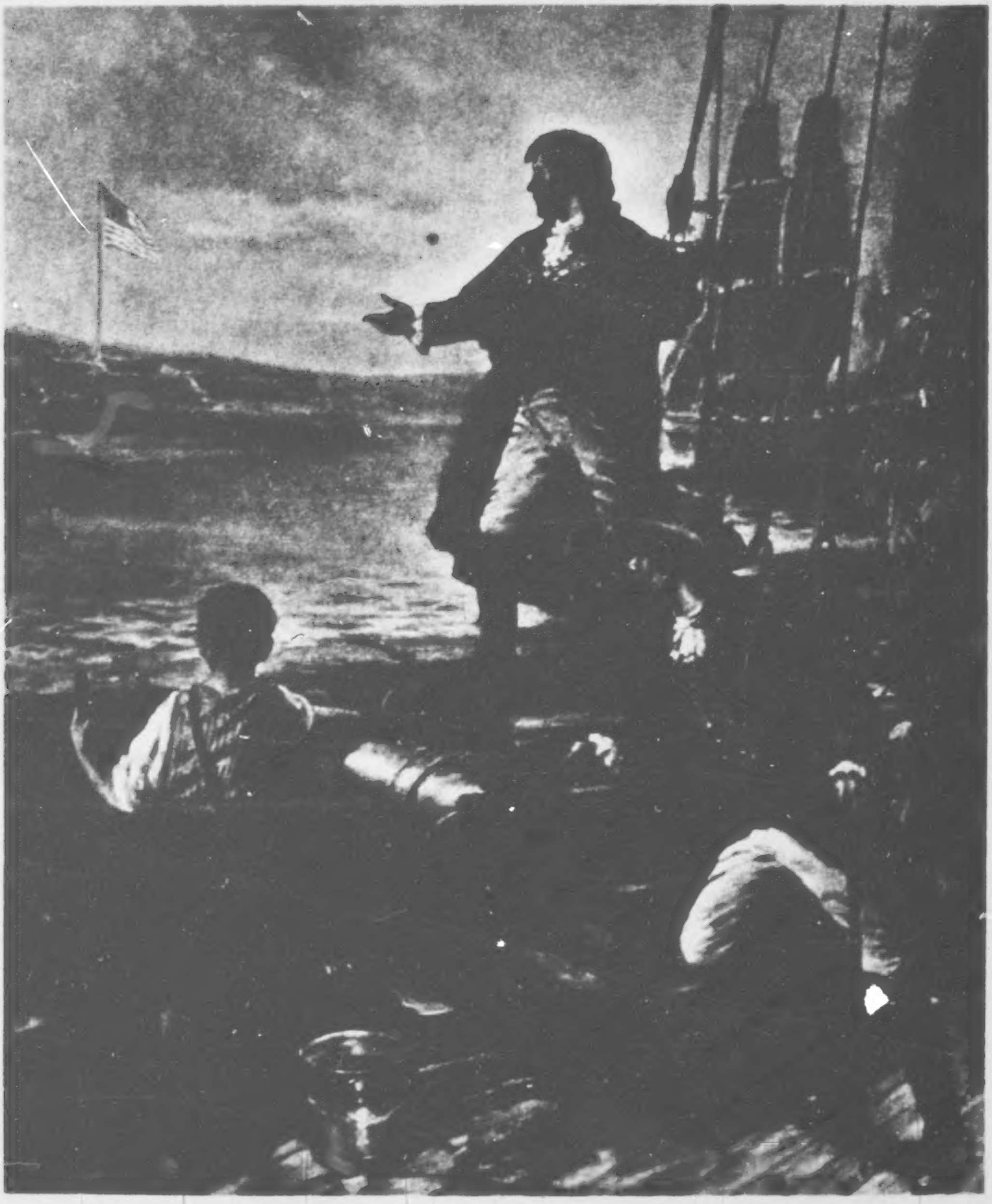
This nation began to grow in size as territories asked to be admitted as states. The first state added to the new Union was Vermont, in 1791. It became our 14th state. By 1912 our country had 48 states. The 49th and 50th states, Alaska and Hawaii, were added to the Union in 1959.

The people who lived in this country during the days after our War for Independence faced many hardships. But they found time to be interested in government



Ceremony in Honolulu on Admission of Hawaii as a State and politics. They had differences of opinion about how our government should be run. These differences led to the formation of political parties.

Political parties started to form even before the Constitution was accepted by the states. Those who favored the Constitution and wanted a strong central gov-



Francis Scott Key Saw That "Our Flag Was Still There" and Wrote "The Star Spangled Banner" ernment were called Federalists. Their leader was Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury. Their rivals were the Antifederalists (or Democratic-Republicans), led by Thomas Jefferson, Washington's Secretary of State. Jefferson became President in 1801.

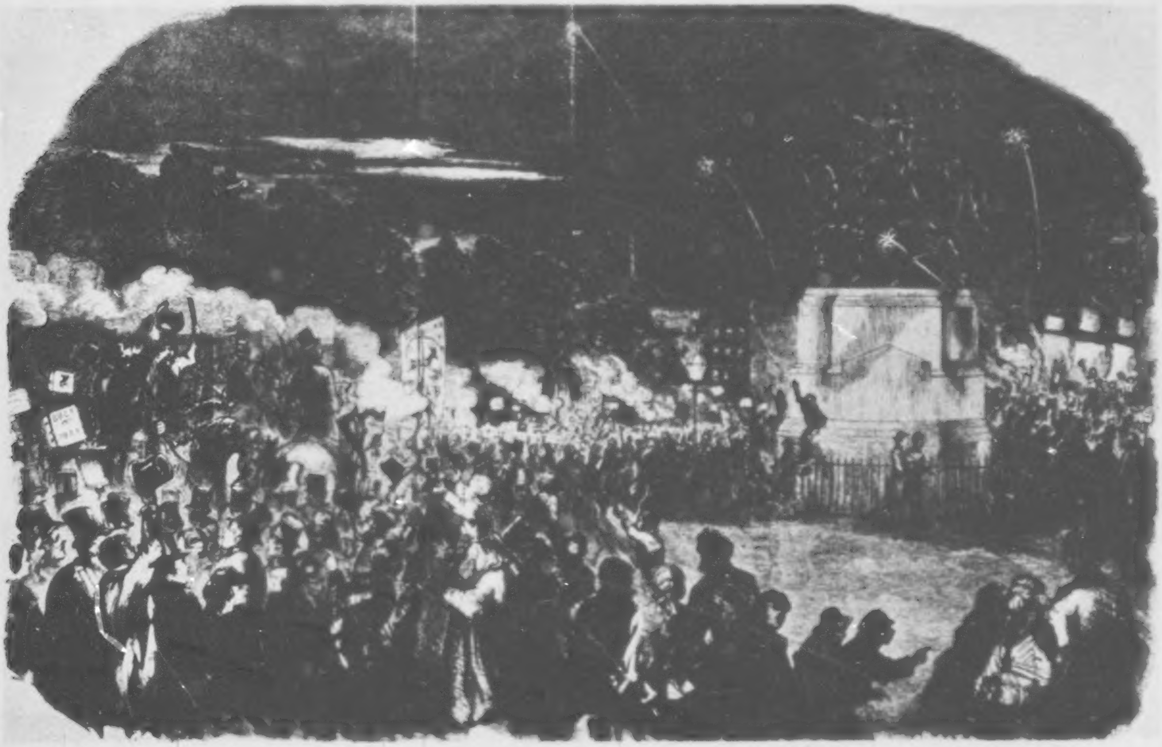
Throughout the years that followed, political parties continued to exist, and to grow in strength. The Democratic Party of today may be traced back to the old Antifederalist Party, while the Republican Party had ~~its~~ origin in the Federalist Party. Throughout their existence, both parties have known dissent within their ranks which resulted in members leaving the party and forming new parties.

In 1803, while Jefferson was President, our country grew in size. He bought a large area of land, called the Louisiana Territory, from France. Thirteen states west of the Mississippi River were admitted to the Union from this territory.

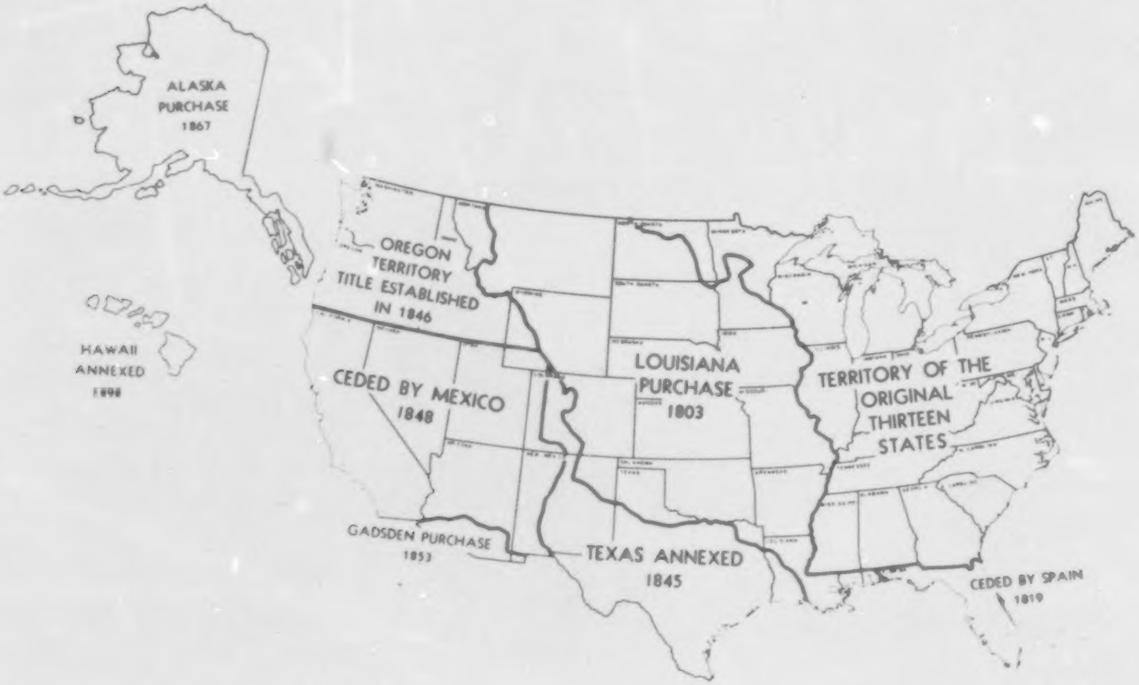
In 1812 we found ourselves at war with Great Britain over freedom of the seas. Neither side won the War of 1812, but Great Britain and the other countries of Europe learned to respect our young country. The war helped to create national spirit—a pride and confidence in the strength and power of the nation.

A treaty between the United States and Spain signed in 1819 also helped our country to grow. It added to our Union the Territory of Florida.

Under James Monroe, our fifth President, an important proclamation known as the Monroe Doctrine was issued. This mes-



Torchlight Procession, 1856


ALASKA PURCHASE 1867
OREGON TERRITORY TITLE ESTABLISHED IN 1846
HAWAII ANNEXED 1898
CEDED BY MEXICO 1848
LOUISIANA PURCHASE 1803
TERRITORY OF THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN STATES
GADSDEN PURCHASE 1853
TEXAS ANNEXED 1845
CEDED BY SPAIN 1819

Land from Which the States Have Been Formed

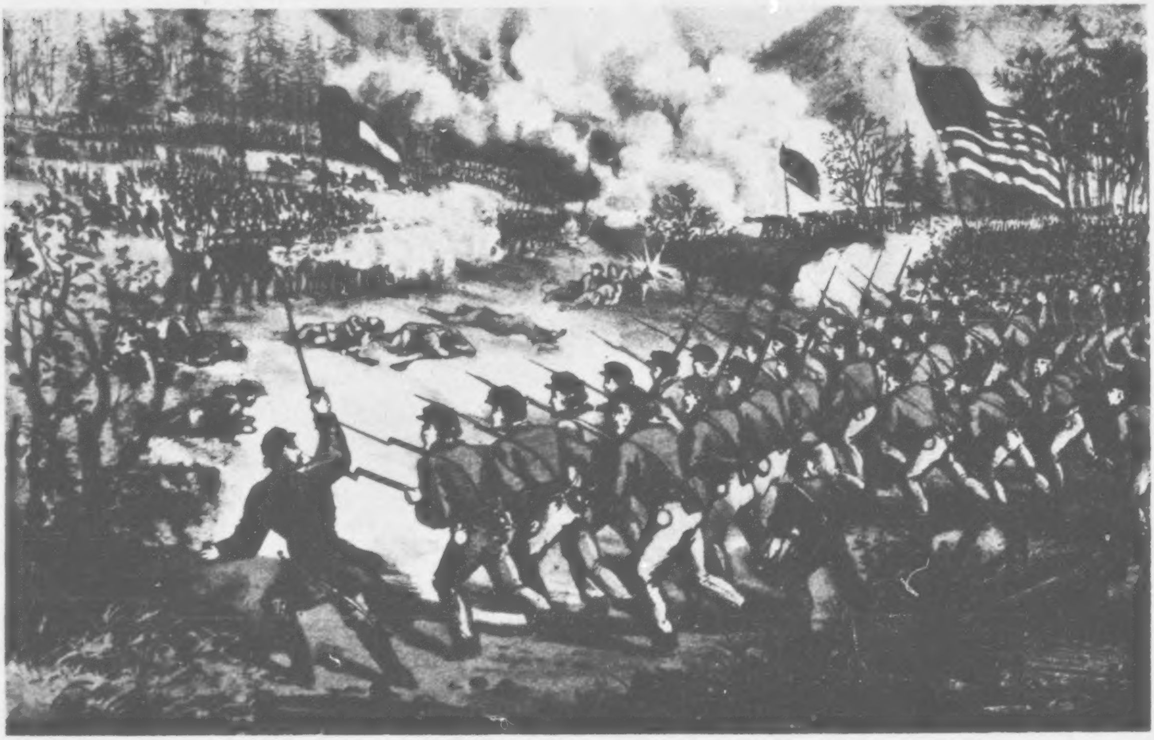
sage warned Europe not to interfere with any of the governments in the Americas, and not to start any new colonies in this hemisphere.

The United States was no longer the weak and small nation it had been in 1789.

Between 1803 and 1853 the United States through purchase, annexation, treaty, and conquest grew in size until it reached from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. For example, a treaty with Great Britain added the great Pacific Northwest; annexation added Texas; victory following a war with Mexico added California and the Southwest; and finally a purchase from Mexico, costing the United States $10,000,000, added what is now part of New Mexico and Arizona.

An important difference of opinion had begun to separate the Americans. The disagreement was about slavery. Many Americans in the southern states believed it was right to own slaves; others in the northern states wanted the slaves to be free. This difference divided the United States, its representatives in government, the political parties, and the people.

When Lincoln was elected by the Republican Party in 1860, the South felt its cause to be hopeless. Lincoln believed that slavery was wrong. He believed that slavery must not be extended any further. As a result, some southern states left the Union. Lincoln said that the Union must be saved. He said that, if necessary, the Federal government would fight to keep the states united.



A Battle During the Civil War

In 1861 war broke out between the North and the South. The North, with more people and many more factories, finally won. Slavery was ended, and the country was free and united. More than three-quarters of a million men had been killed or wounded.

The War Between the States, also called the Civil War, brought about important industrial changes. Many factories, steel mills, and railroads were built. Oil refineries sprang up. Improved transportation and communication united the country. Increased production helped industry grow. Our great natural resources and large labor supply, as well as inventions, also helped us in becoming a great nation.

Electricity began to be used. Power stations were built everywhere to supply the electricity for light and power. The modern world we are used to was born in the days following the War Between the States. By 1890 the United States was becoming one of the leading industrial nations of the world.

Immigrants played an important part in adding to the strength of the nation. After the War Between the States, immigrants began coming to America in large numbers. From 1870 to 1899 a total of more than 11 million immigrants entered the country. Until the 1880's most of them came from countries in northern and western Europe—from England, Ireland, Germany, Holland, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. After 1890 there was an increase in the number coming from southern and eastern Europe—from Italy, Greece, Russia, and Poland.

Almost nine million immigrants arrived on our shores between 1900 and 1910.

Our population continued to grow; so did our territory. In 1867 we purchased Alaska from Russia. Hawaii became a territory of the United States in 1898.

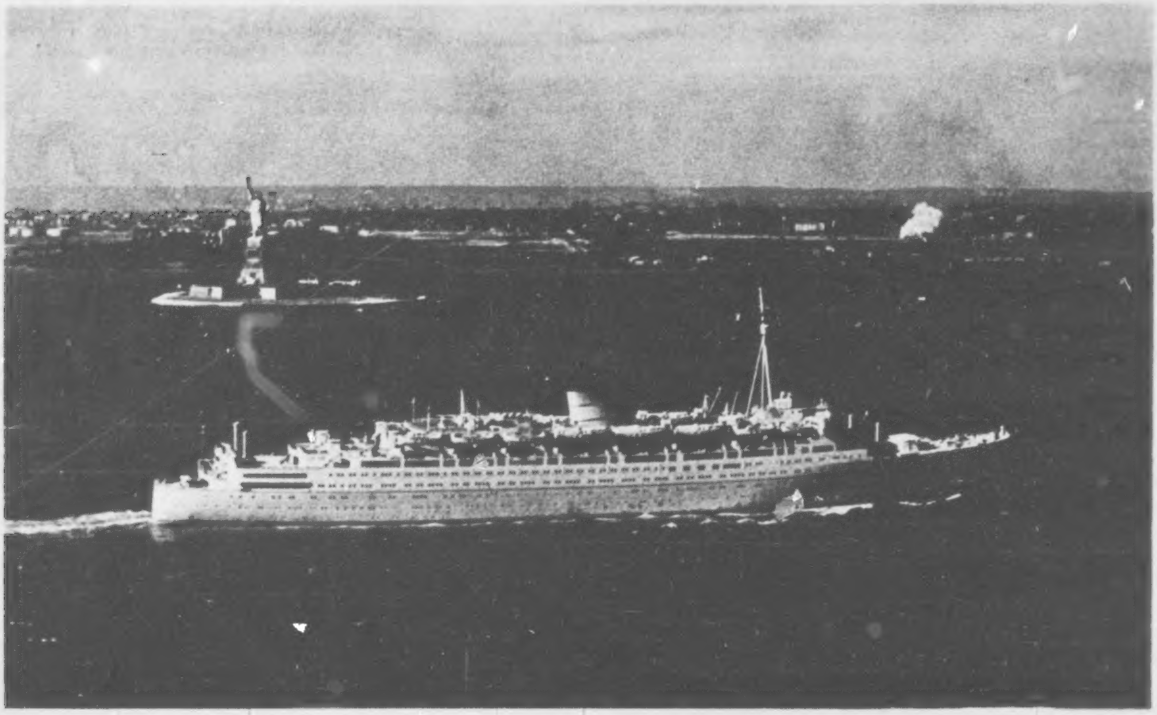
The years between 1898 and 1945 found this nation engaged in three wars. The United States had learned that it was impossible to live alone.

The United States watched with interest Cuba's struggle for independence from Spain. The Americans remembered their own struggle for independence. Because of the way the Spanish were mistreating the Cubans and the blowing up of our battleship, the *Maine*, we went to war in 1898. Spain lost the war. Cuba became a free country. The United States got Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands. The Philippines were granted complete independence in 1946.

World War I began in Europe in 1914. Before it ended more than 30 countries were fighting. The United States tried to stay out of this war. But the sinking of American ships by German submarines brought us into World War I in 1917. We fought to make the world safe for democracy. The fighting ended on November 11, 1918. Germany and her partners were defeated.

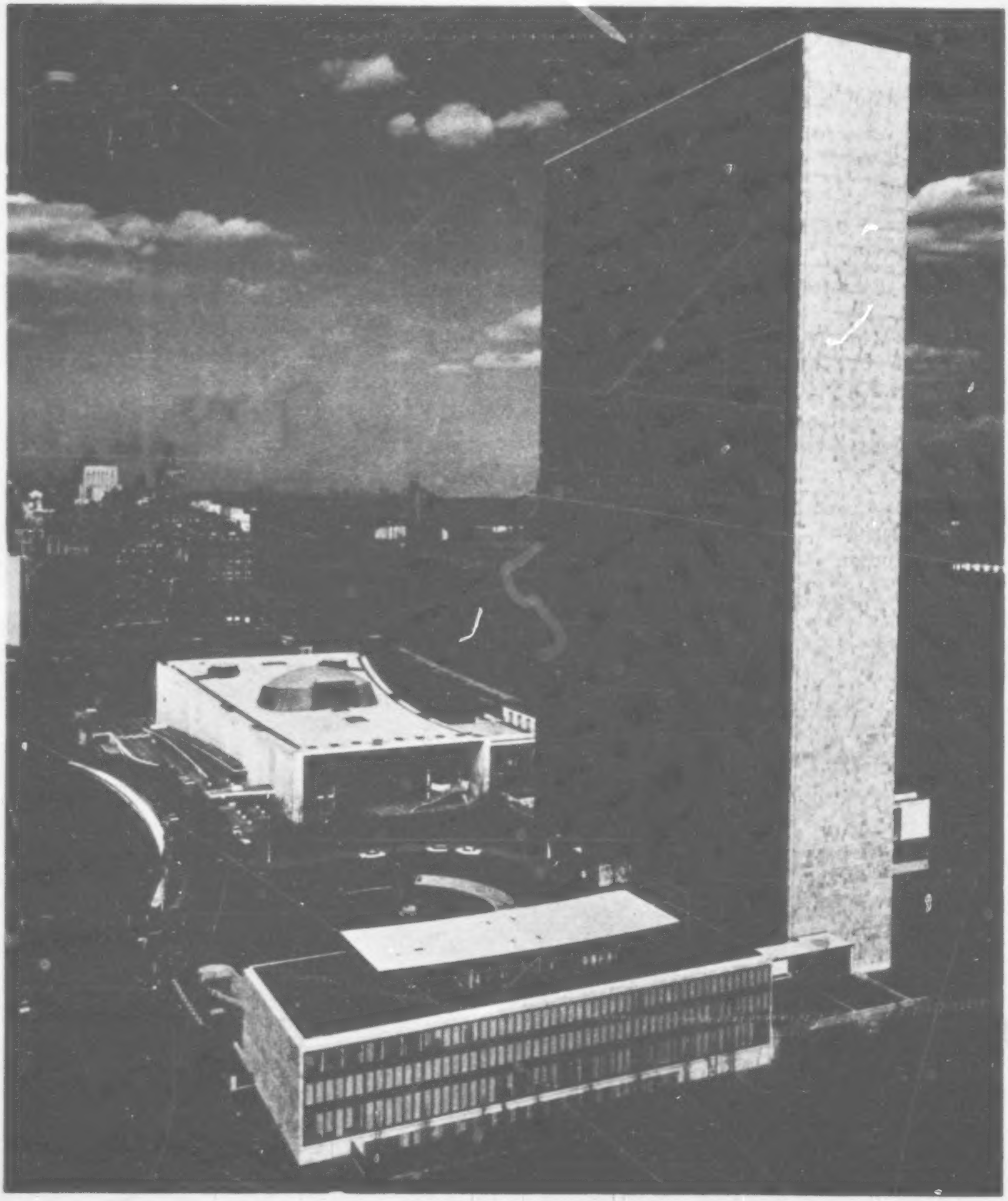
After World War I dictatorships grew up in Russia, Italy, and Germany. During this period Italy, Germany, and Japan wanted to expand their territories. World War II broke out in Europe when Germany invaded Poland in 1939.

Once again the United States tried to stay out of war. However, the bombing of Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii, by the Japanese in 1941



Courtesy, Cunard Line

Passenger Liner Passing the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor



Courtesy, United Nations

United Nations Building, New York City

brought the United States into World War II. Almost 60 nations had a part in this war for freedom. The war ended in 1945 with victory for the United States and her allies.

During 1944 the leaders of the United States, Great Britain, Russia, and China met at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C., to plan a world organization for peace. This lead to a conference in San Francisco in 1945, where a charter was drawn up. The United States was the first nation to approve the plan. The United Nations, the hope of all people for a peaceful world was born. However, since the close of World War II our nation and other nations have been involved in armed conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and other parts of the world.

The United Nations has grown to a membership of more than 130 nations. It meets in a beautiful building located in New York City. The United Nations looks toward a future in which nations will settle their differences by discussion instead of war.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Answer these questions:

1. What did the Federalist Party stand for?
2. How did the United States get the Louisiana Territory?
3. What was the Monroe Doctrine?
4. Why did the North and the South go to war in 1861?
5. Why did the United States enter World War II?
6. What is the United Nations? What is its purpose?

Checking Vocabulary

Match each word with its proper meaning:

Words	Meanings
1. admitted	a. strong nation
2. census	b. an agreement between nations
3. rivals	c. the side of a question people fight for
4. treaty	d. permitted to come in
5. territory	e. persons who are opponents
6. power	f. land belonging to a government
7. cause	g. the counting of people

Discussion

1. Are political parties necessary? Why?
2. Why is the Civil War so important in the history of the United States?
3. What do people mean when they say the United Nations is the world's hope for peace?

Chapter 15

PEOPLE WHO HELPED AMERICA GROW

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

This chapter tells about the lives of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, two of our greatest Presidents. It also tells about other famous people who made important contributions that helped to make life better for all Americans. As you read, see if you can tell:

- What contributions to our country were made by native-born Americans.
- How immigrants to our country helped the United States grow.

Word Study

Read the sentences below and make sure you understand the underlined words:

1. A man who measures and marks land is called a surveyor.
2. The class solved a hard problem.
3. Washington, D.C., is the capital of the United States.
4. The mayor of our city is a well-known politician.
5. Lincoln helped organize the Republican Party.
6. Andrew Jackson was a candidate for President.
7. Many people listened to the debate between the two candidates.

Talk About

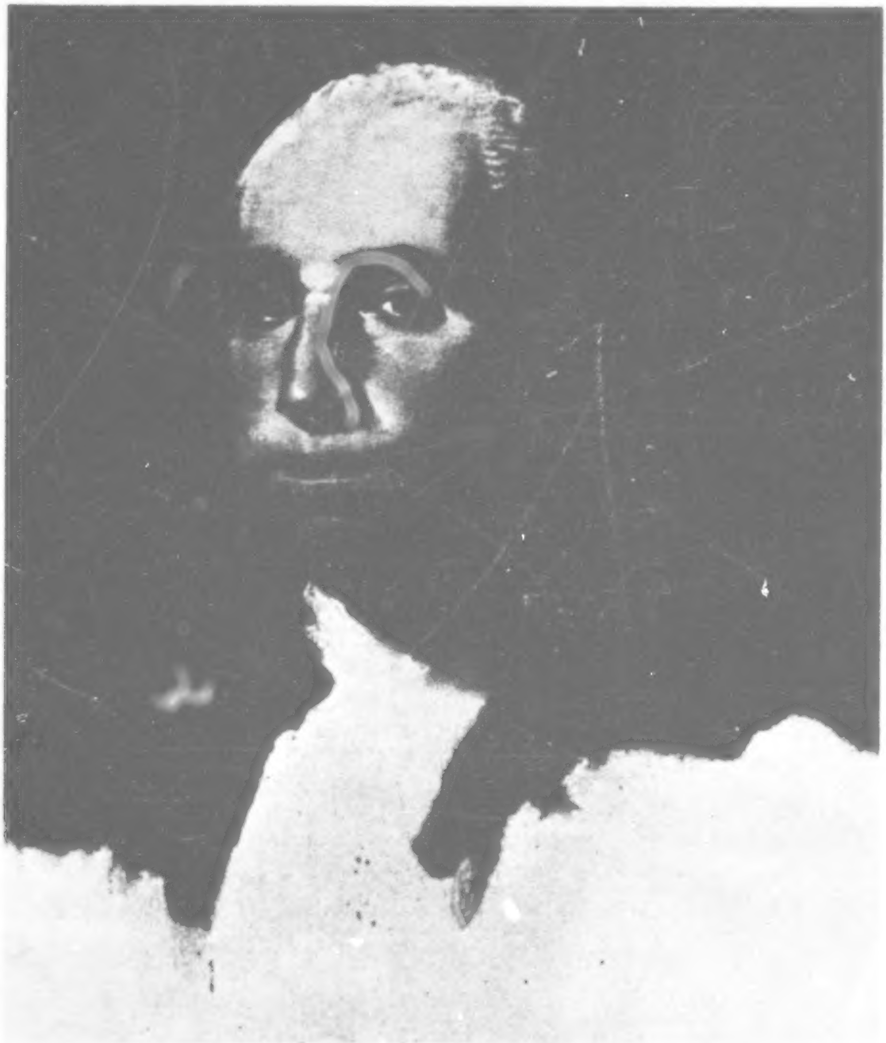
What makes a great leader?

PEOPLE WHO HELPED AMERICA GROW

George Washington, the "father of his country," was born in Virginia on February 22, 1732. As a young man he became a surveyor.

At the age of 21, Washington became an officer in the British army. He fought bravely in battles against the French and the Indians. His fame as a soldier spread.

After his marriage in 1759 to Martha Custis, Washington lived at Mount Vernon, Virginia. In 1774 he was sent by the Virginia colony as a delegate to the First



From the portrait by Gilbert Stuart

George Washington

Continental Congress. When trouble began with Great Britain, Washington was made commander in chief of the Continental Army.

During the war against the British the army faced many hardships. Money to supply the army was hard to get. The men were often without food and warm clothing. They suffered greatly during the winter of 1777–1778 at Valley Forge. Washington never lost hope. With great skill, he led his army to victory. In 1781 at Yorktown, Virginia, the Continental Army under General Washington won the final battle of the Revolutionary War.

Following the war, Washington was asked to head the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. After the Constitution was written, he was elected the first President of the United States of America.

Just as he had led the army, Washington led the new nation. He kept the United States independent and at peace. He solved many of the new nation's problems. The people loved and respected him. It has been said that George Washington was

"First in war, first in peace,
First in the hearts of his countrymen."

Our sixteenth President was Abraham Lincoln. He was born in a log cabin in Kentucky on February 12, 1809. During his early years he lived a life filled with hardship. When he was 9 years of age, his mother died.

At the age of 21 Lincoln set out for Illinois. He worked at many jobs. He split rails for fences. He served as a captain in a war with the Indians. He worked as a clerk in a store. He acted as village postmaster. Like George Washington, he learned surveying.

Although Lincoln had very little regular schooling, he did much reading and studying. By 1837, self-educated, he passed the examination to practice law.

At that time Lincoln moved to Springfield, the capital of Illinois. As a lawyer and politician, he became well known throughout the state. When he was 37 years old he was elected to the House of Representatives. When he returned from Washington, D.C., he helped to organize the new Republican Party. In 1858 he became a candidate for Senator. He took part in several famous debates with Stephen A. Douglas, the Democratic candidate. Lincoln lost the election, but his fame spread throughout the country.

Courtesy, The Mount Vernon Ladies Association

Mount Vernon, Washington's Home

Abraham Lincoln

In 1860 Lincoln was nominated for President by the Republican Party. As a candidate, he promised two things: to keep the states together and to stop the spread of slavery in our country. Lincoln won the election.

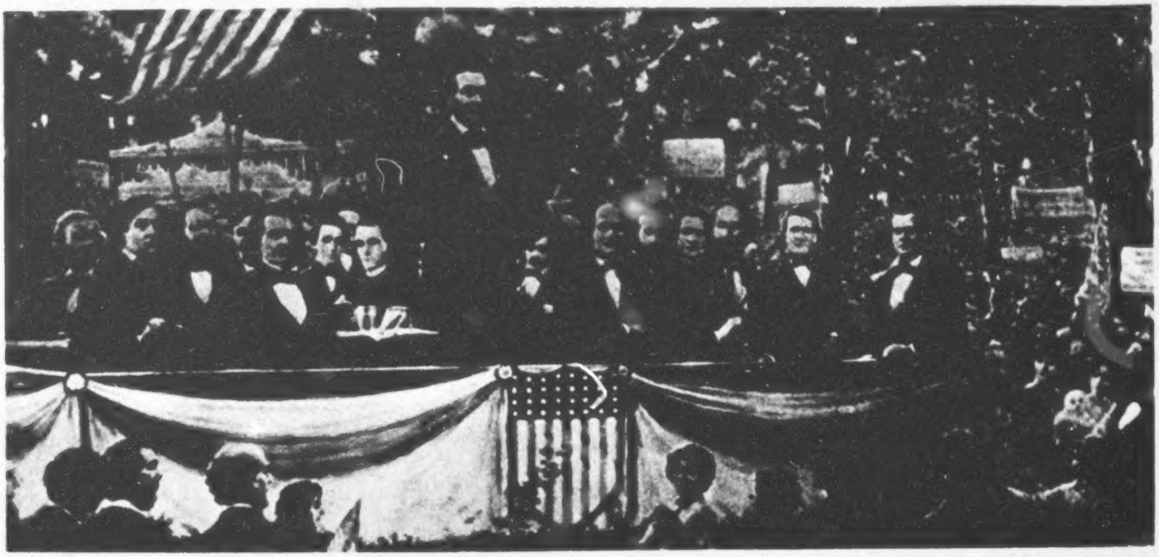
As soon as he was elected, the southern states began to leave the Union. In 1861 war broke out between the North and the South. A few months before the War Between the States ended, Lincoln was elected President a second time. In 1865 a heartbroken President saw the Civil War come to a close.

Lincoln wanted all the people to help rebuild our nation and keep it free. He wanted the states to be united once again.

While attending the Ford Theater in Washington on April 14, 1865, Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth, an actor. The next morning he died. The whole nation mourned the passing of a great leader.

During most of its history, the United States has been fortunate in being able to share the strength, the intelligence, and the culture which newcomers have brought to America. Many of these immigrants have made themselves famous and have added to the wealth and glory of this nation.

Among the many who contributed to the



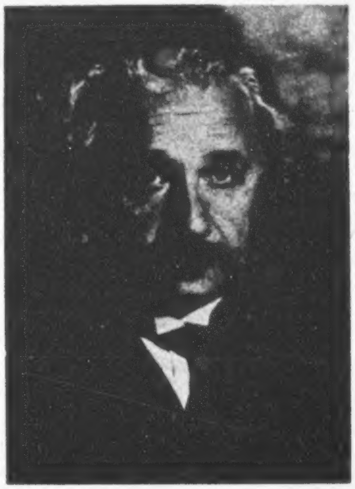
Courtesy, Illinois State Historical Library

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

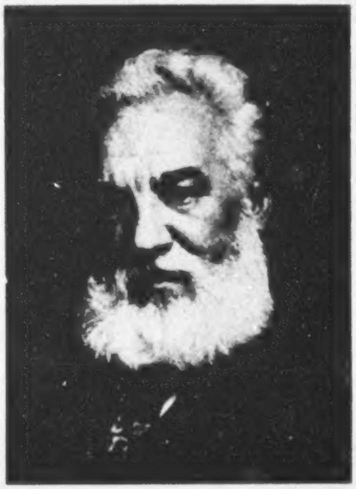
growth of America was Joseph Pulitzer, an outstanding newspaper publisher, who came from Hungary. John Barry, a famous naval officer of the Revolutionary War, came from Ireland. Leopold Stokowski, a great orchestra leader, came from Poland. A Japanese, Hideyo Noguchi, helped fight yellow fever during the Spanish-American War.

From Russia came Igor Sikorsky, an airplane builder. Angelo Patri, from Italy, became famous in the field of education. Felix Frankfurter, from Austria, became an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of

George Washington Carver



Albert Einstein



Alexander Graham Bell

the United States. Albert Einstein, from Germany, is known the world over for his scientific discoveries. Many other immigrants became well known in every walk of life.

Descendants of immigrants also have helped the United States grow. John F. Kennedy, late President of the United States, was of Irish descent, and Dwight D. Eisenhower, famous World War II general and later President of the United States, was of German descent. Negroes have become famous in America in many fields. In music, Marian Anderson is one of our best-loved concert singers. Paul Laurence Dunbar is known for his poetry. George Washington Carver, born of slave parents, made important contributions to science. Ralph J. Bunche won fame for his world-peace efforts. Others have reached fame in literature, the arts, education, and government.

Many other famous Americans helped change our way of life.

Robert Fulton and the steamboat, Henry Ford and the automobile, the Wright brothers and the airplane, all made travel in America and in the world easier and faster.

Eli Whitney and the cotton gin, Cyrus McCormick and the reaper, Thomas Edison and the electric light helped industry grow.

Samuel B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, and Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, made rapid communication possible in the United States and around the world.

Other Americans have helped in the fight against disease. Walter Reed discovered the cause of yellow fever. Charles Drew found a way to use blood plasma to save lives. Jonas Salk found the first vaccine for the control of polio.

Wherever they were born, Americans of all races and religions worked to build this great and free Nation. America's greatness lies in all of its people.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Match the people on the left with the things they did on the right:

1. Alexander Graham Bell
2. Felix Frankfurter
3. Jonas Salk
4. Samuel Morse
5. Eli Whitney
6. Abraham Lincoln
7. George Washington Carver
8. Hideyo Noguchi
9. Marian Anderson

a. invented the cotton gin.
b. made a vaccine for polio.
c. invented the telegraph.
d. kept the states together.
e. is a great singer.
f. became an Associate Justice.
g. invented the telephone.
h. was a great scientist.
i. helped in the fight against yellow fever.

Checking Vocabulary

Choose the right word for each blank:

Words

1. politician
2. candidate
3. solve
4. debates
5. capital
6. surveyor
7. organized

Sentences

a. To ______ a problem is to do the problem right.
b. Washington, D.C., is the ______ of the United States.
c. A man who measures and marks land is called a ______.
d. A mayor of a city or a governor of a state is a ______.
e. The Republican Party was ______ in 1854.
f. Lincoln, a ______ in 1860, won the election for President.
g. Lincoln and Douglas took part in famous ______.

Discussion

1. Why are things like the cotton gin, telephone, and electric light important to the people of a country?
2. Why are great writers, singers, and musicians important to the people of a country?

Chapter 16

BECOMING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

Your first experiences in the United States were exciting. They included finding a place to live, getting and keeping a job, learning English, and making friends. As an alien, you have enjoyed many, but not all, of the rights that citizens enjoy. Only citizens can enjoy all the rights of Americans. This is why you should think about becoming a citizen. This chapter tells you about:

- The requirements for naturalization.
- The naturalization examination.
- How your wife or husband can become a citizen.
- The advantages of being a citizen.

Word Study

Study the underlined words. They will help you to understand the chapter.

1. Mr. Jones' residence is on Elm Street.
2. A man who is 65 years old is eligible for social security.
3. An applicant for citizenship needs two witnesses.
4. A naturalized citizen cannot become President.
5. To become a citizen, you must meet the requirements for naturalization.
6. The doctor gave Mr. Lopez a physical examination.
7. All new citizens take an oath of allegiance to the United States.
8. Naturalization papers are legal documents.
9. I am staying in Texas, but my permanent residence is in California.
10. He spoke for a continuous period of one hour.

Talk About

How does a person become a citizen in your former country?

BECOMING AN AMERICAN CITIZEN

> *"I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America. . . ."*

These are the opening words of the oath of allegiance that an alien takes when he becomes a citizen of the United States. Most people are United States citizens because they were born in this country. They are native-born citizens. They do not have to take an oath of allegiance. Only persons who become naturalized—who adopt the United States as their new country and give up allegiance to their old country—must take this oath. Millions of aliens have become citizens of our country.

Naturalized citizens have all the rights of native-born citizens except the right to become President or Vice President of the United States.

In earlier chapters you learned about those rights which aliens enjoy in our country. You learned also that only citizens have full rights. If you want to enjoy the full rights of citizenship, you will first have to become a citizen.

The law does not allow every alien to become a citizen, nor does it require any alien to become a citizen. Only those aliens who apply for naturalization and who meet the legal requirements can be naturalized. Let us look at some of these requirements.

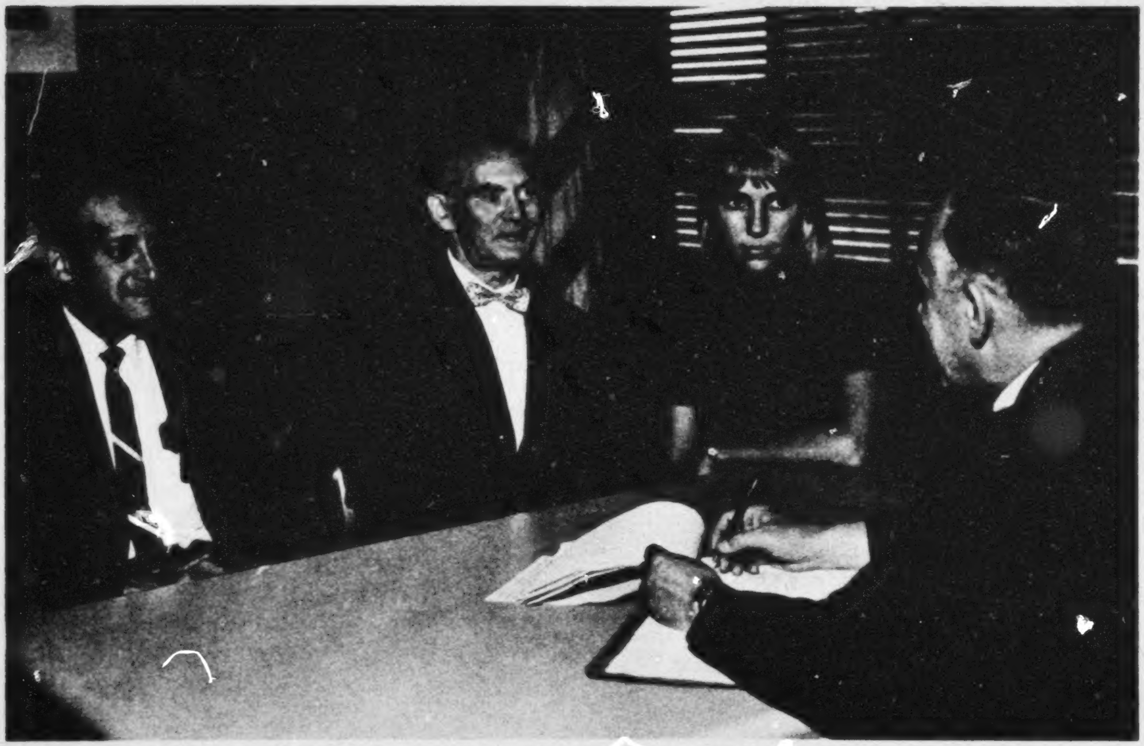
If you are a permanent resident of the United States and are over 18 years of age, you may apply for naturalization. You should decide for yourself whether you want to become a citizen.

When you apply for naturalization, you will have to show that:

1. You have made your home in the United States for at least 5 years just before you apply.
2. You have not been out of the United States for a continuous period of a year or more during those 5 years.
3. You have not been out of the United States for more than a total of 30 months during those 5 years.
4. You have spent the last 6 months of those 5 years in the state where you are applying for naturalization.

A wife and a husband must apply separately for citizenship. A husband's naturalization does not make his wife a citizen. A wife's naturalization does not make her husband a citizen. The husband or wife of a citizen may apply for naturalization after a residence of only 3 years instead of 5 years if:

1. They have been married and living together for at least 3 years.
2. The applicant's husband or wife has been a citizen for at least 3 years.



Naturalization Examiner Conducts Examination of Applicant and Witnesses

You can get an application for naturalization from any office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, or from the clerk of a naturalization court. When you get the application, you will also be given a fingerprint card and a form on which to furnish other information about yourself. You may have your fingerprints taken free of charge at a police station or at the Immigration and Naturalization Service office. When you have filled out the application and the other form, return them and the fingerprint card, together with three small photographs of yourself, to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Within a short time, you will receive a letter. This letter will tell you when and where to meet a naturalization examiner who will help you file your petition in the naturalization court. You must pay $25 to the court when you file your petition for naturalization. When you meet the naturalization examiner, he will question you to see if you meet the educational and other legal requirements for citizenship.

At the examination you will have to show that you are able to:

1. Read, write, and speak simple words in English.
2. Answer questions which show that you have a fair knowledge of American history, government, and the Constitution.

You do not have to take the reading, writing, and speaking part of the examination if you meet these requirements:

1. You were 50 years of age or more on December 24, 1952, AND
2. You had lived in the United States for 20 years or more ON December 24, 1952.

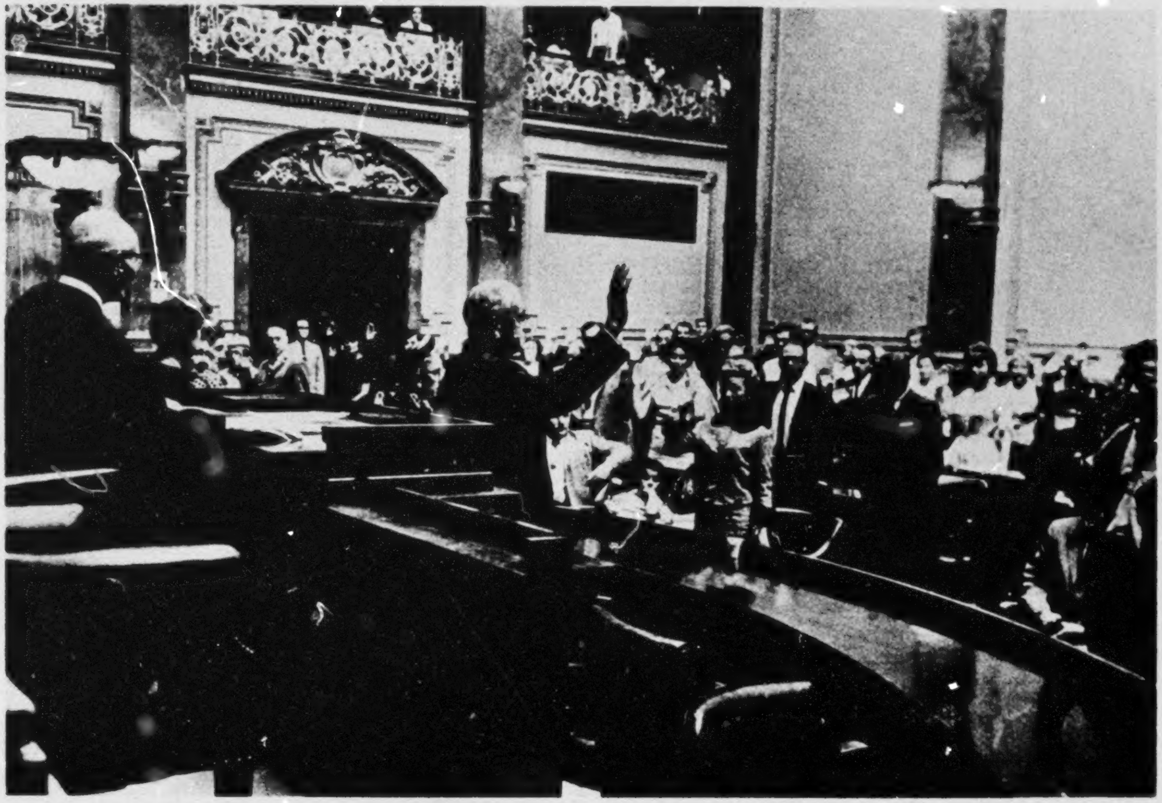
This means that some applicants can become citizens even though they cannot read, write, or speak English. But you have learned from earlier chapters why a knowledge of English is important to the newcomer. Even if an applicant is excused from taking this part of the examination, he should learn as much English as possible.

A Citizenship Education Class in Honolulu

Blind persons and persons physically unable to read, write, or speak are also excused from this part of the test. However, all applicants must take and pass an examination on American history, government, and the Constitution. No one is excused from showing that he knows these things. Citizenship education classes will help you to learn them, as well as English.

To prove that you meet the other legal requirements for citizenship, you will have to show that:

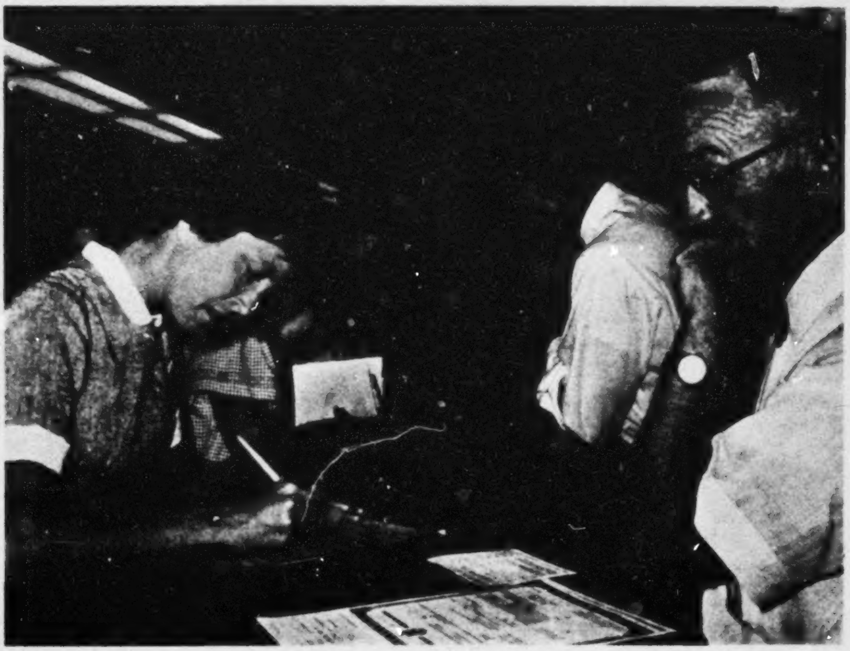
1. You are now and have been a person of good moral character.
2. You are now and have been a person loyal to the government of the United States and that you believe in the Constitution.



New Citizens Swear Allegiance to the United States

You have to take two witnesses with you to the examination. The witnesses must be citizens of the United States, and must be persons who know you well. They will be asked to say:

1. Where you have had your residence.
2. That, as far as they know, you are a person of good moral character.
3. That you are loyal to this country and will make a good citizen.



New Citizens Sign Their Certificates of Naturalization

After the examination, the naturalization examiner will tell you whether you passed. Later on, you will be notified by mail when to go to the naturalization court. When you go to the court, you and the other aliens who are going to be naturalized will stand before the judge. The naturalization examiner will tell the judge whether you will make a good citizen. The judge will decide whether you should be allowed to be naturalized. If the judge says you can become a citizen, you will then take the oath of allegiance to your new country. When you take this oath, you give up your allegiance to your old country, and promise to help the United States and obey its laws.

As a new citizen, you will receive a certificate of naturalization from the court. This document will show that you are a citizen of the United States—the country of your choice.

Becoming a citizen is an exciting experience. You are now eligible for jobs not open to aliens. You are also eligible to serve on a jury in your community. If you are on the list of voters, you can vote in all elections. You can run for public office. You no longer need an alien registration card. You do not have to notify the Immigration and Naturalization Service of your address.

Most exciting will be the knowledge that you are a voting member of our great democracy. You will share the responsibility of protecting democracy's most precious gifts:

> ". . . life, liberty,
> and the pursuit of happiness."

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

Fill in the blanks with the word or phrase you choose from the list at the left:

Words and Phrases

1. witnesses
2. alien registration card
3. pass an examination
4. American history and government
5. read and write simple English
6. government of the United States
7. residence
8. character

Sentences

a. As an alien, you must always carry your ____________ ____________ ____________ with you.

b. Everyone applying for United States citizenship must ____________ ____________ ____________ before a naturalization examiner.

c. You must know how to ____________ ______ ____________ ____________ ____________ in order to pass this examination.

d. You must have some knowledge of ____________ ________________________________.

e. You must bring two ______________ to the examination; they will answer questions about your ______________ and ______________.

f. You must show that you will be loyal to the ____________ ____________ ______ ____________.

Checking Vocabulary

Choose the right word for each blank:

Words

1. residence
2. continuous
3. legal
4. eligible
5. allegiance
6. requirement
7. naturalized
8. permanent

Sentences

a. When an alien becomes a citizen we say he is a ______________________ citizen.

b. The place where a person lives is called his ______________.

c. In order to be ____________ to vote, a person must be a citizen.

d. We are staying at a motel in Virginia City but our ____________ residence is in New York City.

e. Before becoming a citizen, an alien takes an oath of ____________ to the United States.

f. Living in this country for 5 years is a ____________ for naturalization.

g. A ____________ requirement for naturalization is that a person be of good moral character.

h. We were out of the country for one ____________ period of 9 months.

Discussion

1. Why does the government require an alien to carry an alien registration card?
2. Why should an alien in the United States want to become a citizen?
3. In what ways can you help this country when you become a citizen?

Chapter 17

VOTING INTELLIGENTLY

BEFORE YOU READ THE STORY

Good citizenship means many things. This chapter discusses how a citizen can take an active part in our democracy by voting intelligently. It also tells you:

- How to learn what a candidate stands for.
- How to vote in elections intelligently.
- How to join a political party.

Word Study

Study the underlined words. They will help you understand the chapter.

1. Newspapers print information about the weather every day.
2. Radio, television, and newspapers are good sources of news.
3. The circulars told about the candidate.
4. The pamphlet has much information in its eight pages.
5. A citizen cannot vote unless he registers.
6. Some voters prefer one political party; other voters prefer a different party.
7. We vote at the polls near our house.
8. An intelligent voter is an informed voter.
9. The big issue in our last election was whether or not to build a new school.
10. The person named as a candidate for office is called a nominee.

Talk About

Should a citizen vote every time there is an election?

VOTING INTELLIGENTLY

Democracy is more than just a word, it is a way of life. Like other living things, it needs care. To keep democracy alive in the United States, every citizen must do his share to protect it. Voting in elections is one of the important ways of protecting democracy. When he votes, the citizen helps express the will of the people. It is not only the right of every American citizen to vote, it is also his responsibility.

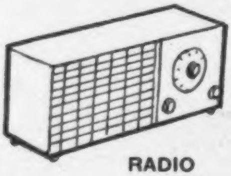
When you become a citizen, you are expected to take part in our government. This does not mean that you must work for the government or hold public office. In our democratic system, a citizen can take part in his government by voting. The many things that our government must do for the people have to be done through representatives. We should, therefore, choose representatives who will work for the good of the people. Only when citizens vote can we have a "government by the people."

Voting, in itself, is not enough. If we are to have representatives who will give us good government, we must choose them wisely. Every voter should learn all he can about the candidates and the issues in an election. He should know why he is for or against a candidate or an issue.

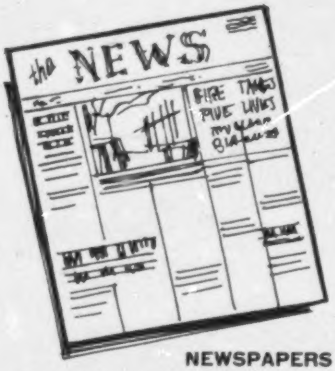
A good citizen does not vote one way or another just to please a friend or neighbor. The intelligent voter thinks for himself and makes his own decision. His vote is secret.

There are many ways in which a voter can learn about the candidates and the issues. He can listen to persons who are helping the candidate to win the election. These persons give talks to groups of people, and over the radio and television. They tell what the candidate promises he will do for the people

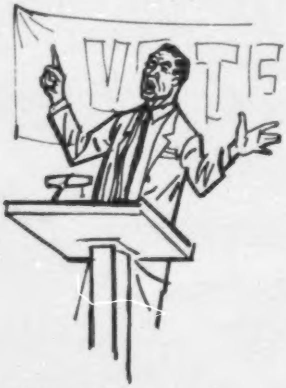
SOURCES OF INFORMATION WHICH HELP US VOTE INTELLIGENTLY...



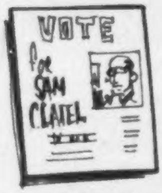
RADIO



NEWSPAPERS

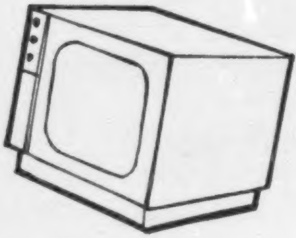


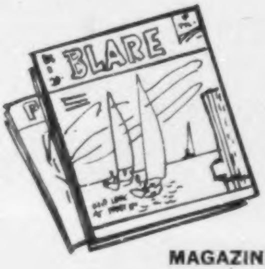
SPEAKERS



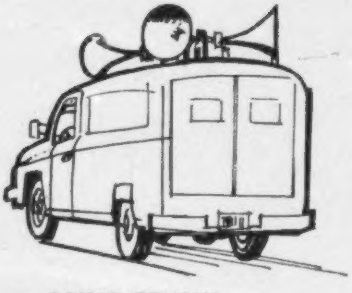
CIRCULARS

TELEVISION

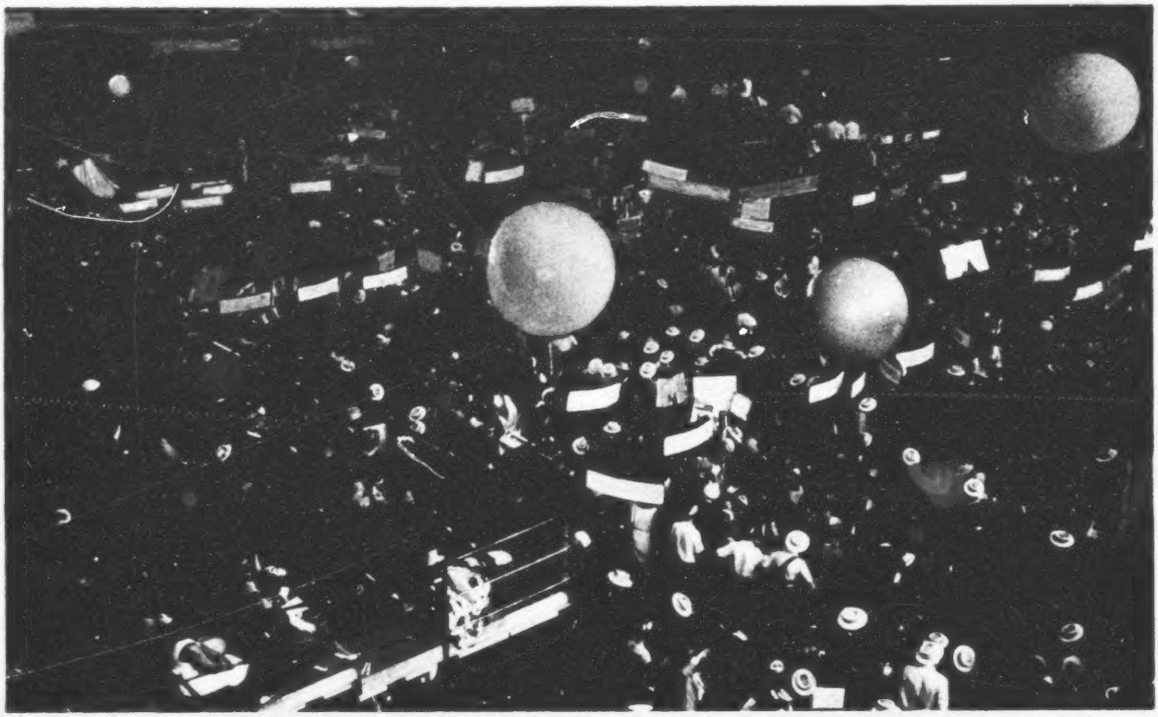




MAGAZINES



SOUND TRUCKS



A National Convention

if they elect him. The voter can also attend meetings and hear the candidate himself speak.

Information about candidates and issues is given in newspapers, magazines and books. Circulars and pamphlets sent to the homes of voters by political parties are other sources of information.

The intelligent voter can also get information in his own home. Members of the family can talk about what they have learned and what they think. The same thing can be done at the place where the voter works.

The voter should learn what is said for each candidate and issue, as well as what is said against them. It would be foolish for him to believe everything that he hears and reads. By learning about each side, the voter can compare the information and then make up his own mind. This is the intelligent way of keeping democracy alive.

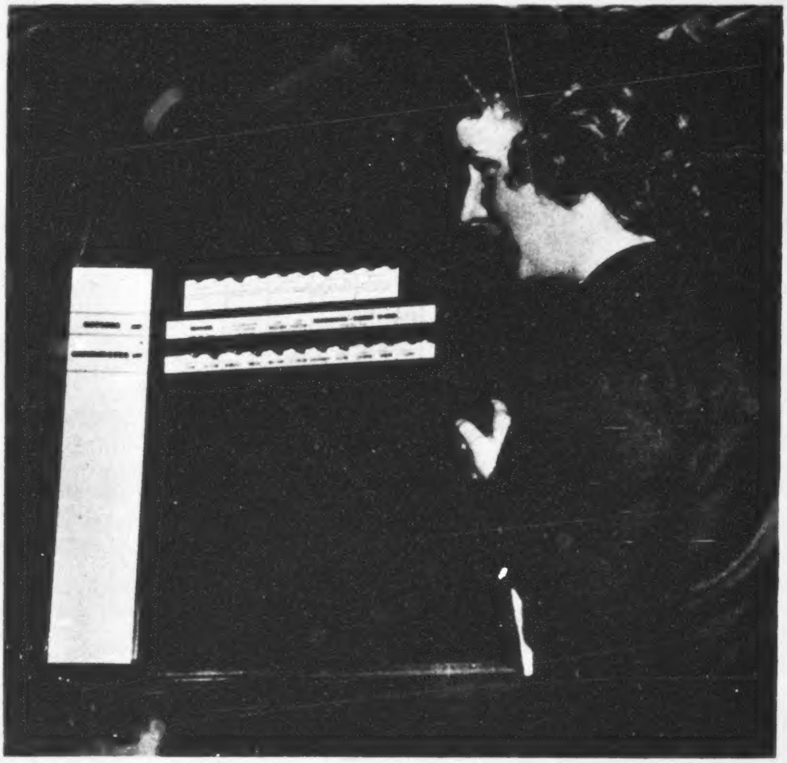
Before you can vote, you must have your name put on the list of voters. When you do this, we say you "register." When you register, you may be asked the name of the political party you prefer. A political party is a group of people who have the same ideas about the kind of representatives and government we should have.

The two major parties in this country are the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. You may join any political party you prefer. If you wish, you do not have to belong to any party and may register as an "independent." After you have become a member of a political party, you may not agree with some of the things for which it stands. If you decide you want to change to another party, you are free to do so. Any change of party membership can be made at registration time. You can then vote in a "primary election" for nominees chosen by your new party.

A primary election is one in which nominees from each political party are chosen by the people of that party to represent it in a "general election." A general election is one in which only one candidate for an office is elected by the voters from among all the candidates. In a general election, you can vote for the candidates of any party.

In a Presidential election, political parties nominate, or select, candidates to run for the offices of President and Vice President. The selection is made at national conventions from among the persons being considered for nomination. The candidates nominated in this way by each party then run for office in the general election. The people do not vote directly for the President and Vice President. They vote for electors, and the electors vote for the candidates. The candidate who gets more than half of the votes of the electors wins the election.

Your duty as a good citizen does not end when you vote at the polls. After the election is over, you should make sure that the person who was elected is doing his work well. You should compare what he is doing with what he promised he would do. You may find that he is not keeping his promises. When this happens, the voters have a duty to elect a better person at the next election.



Courtesy, League of Women Voters of the United States

Women Have the Right to Vote

Weak government in a democracy is possible if its citizens let it grow that way. To protect our rights, and to get better government, we should use our right and duty to vote. We should take part in every election. When we vote, we must do it intelligently. In this way, we make our government strong and our country safe for democracy.

AFTER YOU READ THE STORY

Checking Understanding

1. Must an American citizen join a political party?
2. What are the names of our two major political parties?
3. How can you get to know something about a candidate and the issues before an election?
4. What should you know about a candidate?
5. When is a citizen an "intelligent voter"?

Checking Word Meanings

Choose the correct word:

Words

1. circular
2. prefers
3. information
4. source
5. nominee
6. registers
7. polls
8. intelligently
9. issue
10. pamphlet

Sentences

a. ____________________ means facts you learn.
b. A single printed sheet giving information is called a ____________.
c. A ____________ of information is something or somebody that supplies information.
d. When a voter ____________ a party, he likes or chooses that party.
e. A little book or folder containing information is called a ______________________.
f. The place where a person votes is called the ____________.
g. A citizen named as a candidate for office is called a ______________________.
h. An ____________ is a question that is decided by the voters.
i. When a citizen puts his name on the list of voters, we say he ______________________.
j. When we listen to each side before voting, we are able to vote ______________________.

Discussion

1. What kind of news should a citizen in a democracy read?
2. Why do many of the registered voters fail to vote in national elections?
3. Should citizens be forced to vote?
4. Is it a good idea to register "independent"?

The Declaration of Independence

In Congress, July 4, 1776

The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,—That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security.—Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasion on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offenses:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighbouring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments.

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolution and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessary which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.

We, Therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

John Hancock.

New Hampshire

Josiah Bartlett
Wm. Whipple
Matthew Thornton

Massachusetts Bay

Saml Adams
John Adams
Robt Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island

Step. Hopkins
William Ellery

Connecticut

Roger Sherman
Saml Huntington
Wm. Williams
Oliver Wolcott

New York

Wm Floyd
Phil. Livingston
Frans. Lewis
Lewis Morris

New Jersey

Richd. Stockton
Jno Witherspoon
Fras. Hopkinson
John Hart
Abra Clark

Pennsylvania

Robt Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benja. Franklin
John Morton
Geo. Clymer
Jas. Smith
Geo. Taylor
James Wilson
Geo. Ross

Delaware

Caesar Rodney
Geo Read
Tho M'Kean

Maryland

Samuel Chase
Wm. Paca
Thos. Stone
Charles Carroll
of Carrollton

Virginia

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Th Jefferson
Benja. Harrison
Thos. Nelson Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Carter Braxton

North Carolina

Wm Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

South Carolina

Edward Rutledge
Thomas Lynch junr.
Thos Heyward junr.
Arthur Middleton

Georgia

Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
Geo Walton

The Constitution of the United States of America

Preamble

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Article I

Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several states, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers; and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Section 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years and each Senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one-third may be chosen every second year; and if vacancies happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the

Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States: but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.

Section 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 5. Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member.

Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6. The Senators and Representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office.

Section 7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approves he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Section 8. The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings;—and

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Section 9. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed.

No capitation, or other direct, tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state.

No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another: nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one state, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign state.

Section 10. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws: and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

Article II

Section 1. The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same term, be elected, as follows:

Each state, shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress; but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice.

In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section 2. The President shall be commander in chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Section 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Section 4. The President, Vice President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article III

Section 1. The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Section 2. The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority;—to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls;—to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction;—to controversies to which the United States shall be a party;—to controversies between two or more states;—between a state and citizens of another state;—between citizens of different states,—between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be a party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

Section 3. Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture except during the life of the person attained.

Article IV

Section 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Section 2. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labour in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labour, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labour may be due.

Section 3. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state; nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislature of the states concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.

Section 4. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence.

Article V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the Ninth Section of the First Article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

Article VI

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

Article VII

The ratification of the conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in convention by the unanimous consent of the states present the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names,

Go. Washington—*Presid't*,
and deputy from Virginia
Attest William Jackson *Secretary*

New Hampshire

John Langdon
Nicholas Gilman

Massachusetts

Nathaniel Gorham
Rufus King

Connecticut

Wm. Saml. Johnson
Roger Sherman

New York

Alexander Hamilton

New Jersey

Wil: Livingston
David Brearley
Wm. Paterson
Jona: Dayton

Pennsylvania

B Franklin
Thomas Mifflin
Robt Morris
Geo. Clymer
Thos. FitzSimons
Jared Ingersoll
James Wilson
Gouv Morris

Delaware

Geo: Read
Gunning Bedford jun
John Dickinson
Richard Bassett
Jaco: Broom

Maryland

James McHenry
Dan of St Thos. Jenifer
Danl Carroll

Virginia

John Blair—
James Madison Jr.

North Carolina

Wm. Blount
Richd. Dobbs Spaight
Hu Williamson

South Carolina

J. Rutledge
Charles Cotesworth Pinckney
Charles Pinckney
Pierce Butler

Georgia

William Few
Abr Baldwin

Amendments

Article I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Article II

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article IV

Tht right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Article V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Article VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Article VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Article IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Article X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Article XI

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

Article XII

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;—The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;—The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.—The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice President, shall be the Vice President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice President of the United States.

Article XIII

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article XIV

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state.

Section 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any state, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each house, remove such disability.

Section 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Article XV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article XVI

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Article XVII

Section 1. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

Section 2. When vacancies happen in the representation of any state in the Senate, the executive authority of such state shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: *Provided*, That the legislature of any state may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

Section 3. This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Article XVIII

Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several states shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several states, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

Article XIX

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article XX

Section 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Section 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission.

Article XXI

Section 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2. The transportation or importation into any state, territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several states, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

Article XXII

Section 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2. This Article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its submission to the states by the Congress.

Article XXIII

Section 1. The District constituting the seat of government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a state, but in no event more than the least populous state; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the states, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a state; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article XXIV

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Article XXV

Section 1. In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

Section 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

Section 4. Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assemblying within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

Article XXVI

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

WORDS AND TERMS USED IN THE TEXT

Word	Meaning
abbreviation	a shortened form of a word
ability	knowledge and skill needed to do something
abolished	put an end to; did away with
accept	to receive
active	moving; doing one's work; doing things
admitted	given the right to enter
adopted	accepted; agreed to; take as one's own
adult	full-grown; matured
advantage	benefit
advise	inform; tell
afford	be able to spend money for something
agency	a company or office or organization in business to act for another's benefit
agree	to say "yes"; to have the same opinion
aliens	people from a foreign country; people not yet citizens
allegiance	loyalty
allow	permit
amendment	a change or an addition to a constitution or law
amount	total sum
annexation	uniting; adding to
appeared	was seen; seemed to be
applicant	a person who applies for something
application	form on which a person applies for something
apply	to ask for something; to let people know you want something
appointed	named to take a job or office
approve	agree to; to think well of; to say "yes"
area	amount of land; level space
argue	discuss; give reasons in support of ideas
arrive	to reach a place; come
assemble	meet together for a common purpose
assistance	help; aid
avoid	to keep away from
backbone	the most important part
backgrounds	the result of training, experience, education
balance	to make equal in value; to make even
base	foundation
basic	most important
basis	the main part; a starting point
belief	faith; trust
belongings	things a person owns
benefit	anything which is for the good of a person or thing; money paid to a person
bill	a suggested law proposed by a lawmaker

Word	Meaning
borrow	to get something from another person with the understanding that it must be returned
boundary	the line, real or imaginary, that shows where a piece of land ends
brief	short
Cabinet	group of advisers to the President
candidate	person who runs for office
capital	city where the government is located
cattle	farm animals; livestock
cause	the thing a person fights for; reason
celebrate	to recognize and honor, as a holiday
census	an official count of people
center	a middle point; place where people meet
certificate	written statement of proof of some fact
charge	ask as a price; fee
cheaper	costing less
check	to control; hold back; restrain
choice	a thing preferred; selection
choose	decide to take; pick out
circular	a printed paper containing information
civil service	government work
claim	ask for as a right
classified ads	short advertisements listed by alphabet in a newspaper
colonies	settlements in a new land
comfort	something that makes life easier
commissions	small groups of people working for a government
communication	the giving of information
community	city or town; neighborhood
compare	to show how things are alike or different
compensation	payment for work done or for some other purpose
completes	finishes
concern	anxiety; interest
condition	how a person or thing is
conduct	manage; carry on
Congress	the main lawmaking body of the United States
conquest	gained by force
consent	to agree; to say "yes"
considers	thinks about; makes allowance for
Constitution	basic law of the United States
contain	to hold; to have; include
continuous	without stopping
contributions	things given to others; gifts
convenience	anything that adds to one's comfort
convention	a meeting for some purpose
conversation	informal talk
costly	expensive; costing a great deal of money
courage	bravery
create	make
crude	rough; not pure
debate	argument about issues; to take sides in a discussion

Word	Meaning
	something owed by one person to another or others
decide	settle a question
Declaration of Independence	a public statement by which the Continental Congress in 1776 said that the 13 colonies were free from Great Britain
Declaration of Intention	a legal paper in which an alien says that he intends to become a citizen
declare	to make known openly
defeated	beaten; to win victory over
defense	protection from others
delegate	a person sent to speak or act for others; a representative
democracy	government of, by, and for the people
department	a division or branch of governmental administration
dependent	person needing support—a wife, child, etc.
deposits	material laid down by natural means
descendants	children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren
desert	a region without water
destroyed	broken to pieces; ruined; spoiled
difficult	not easy
diploma	paper which says that a person has graduated from a school
disabled	unable to do what most people do; unable to work
disagreement	difference of opinion; quarrel; dispute
discovered	found
discuss	to talk over
district	the part of a state which a Congressman represents
document	written proof
domestic	having to do with our own country; relating to household or family
domestic workers	people who do housework for a living
drug	something taken into the body to help a person get well
earn	to make money by working
education	instruction
elected	chosen by the voters
eligible	qualified for something; fit to be chosen
employer	the person or company for whom you work
employment	work
enforce	make people do something; to compel
enjoy	to like; to have the benefit of something
equality	sameness in importance; being equal
established	started; set up; founded
examination	test
examiner	person who examines or questions another person
exciting	giving great joy; feeling stirred up
executive	person who runs things; the boss; person or branch that enforces laws
exist	to live
expensive	costly
experience	what one has done in the past; anything seen, done, or lived through
export	to send to foreign countries
express	say; write; let people know how you feel or think

Word	Meaning
extended	spread; reached out
factories	places where things are made
fame	being well known
fee	charge for services or privileges; cost
file	to submit an application or a petition
finally	at the end; at last
flows	runs like water
formed	organized; developed; came together
former	the one before; the first
founded	started; built for the first time
freedom	not under control by others; to be able to do as one wants
friendly	kindly
furnished	having furniture; put in what was needed
general	usual; belonging to all
general election	a time when people may vote for any candidate
government	a system of ruling people
graduate	to complete a course of study in a school or college
guarantee	a promise to do something; pledge; stand back of
hardships	troubles
headed	led by
hemisphere	half of the world
highway	main road
hires	employs; gives a job to
housing project	group of houses or apartments in one location
immigrants	newcomers to a country
important	meaning much; worthwhile
impress	to make someone remember you; influence
improve	to grow better
include	to form or be a part of something
increase	become larger
independent	free from control by others
individual	a person
industrial centers	places where there are many factories
informal	not according to rule or the usual manner; without ceremony
information	news; knowledge; facts you learn
informed	to know about; to have knowledge of
institution	organization of a public nature
insures	protects; makes certain; guarantees
intelligence	mental power or ability
intelligent	aware; skilled; able to learn quickly
interesting	holding one's attention
interfere	to enter into the affairs of others; meddle; to clash
interpreter	a person who explains in one language something that was said in a different language
interview	conversation between an employer and a person who is asking for a job
invaded	entered with the purpose of taking possession
invented	made for the first time
irrigate	to bring water to crops; to water

Word	Meaning
issue	a problem needing a decision
judicial	having to do with courts and judges and interpreting the laws
jury	a group of people sworn to hear the evidence and give a decision in a case
knowledge	information; news; facts
landlord	person owning an apartment house
lawfully	according to the law
lease	an agreement to rent a house or apartment
legal	correct according to law; having to do with law
legislation	making and passing laws
legislative	having to do with making laws
legislature	lawmaking body
lending	allowing the use of something for a while
level	even
librarian	person in charge of a library
library	a building containing a collection of books; also a collection of books
license	to authorize by legal permit
listed	written in order
living	being alive
local	near-by; in your own neighborhood or city
located	in; in a certain place
loyal	true to one's friends or country
majority	most; more than half of those voting
manufacture	to make, usually in a factory
member	a person who is part of a group of people
mine	a pit from which coal or ore is dug
minimum	the smallest number or amount
miracle	a remarkable thing or event
moral	having to do with right and wrong
motor vehicle	car, automobile, or truck
mourned	felt sad
narrow	limited; not wide
native-born	born in the country where a person lives
naturalized	admitted to citizenship
necessary	needed; essential
needy	poor; not having enough to live on
neighbor	person living near another person
neighborhood	place where people live near one another
newcomer	person in this country for a short time; an alien
nominate	to name or propose for office
nominee	a person named as a candidate for office
notice	to see; a written or printed sign giving information or warning; announcement
oath	solemn promise of the truth of a statement
occupation	the kind of work a person does
official	officer holding a government job; formal
operate	to work; to act
opinion	a particular judgment or belief; what one thinks
opportunity	chance to do or get something
ore	rock, sand, or dirt having some metal in it

Word	Meaning
organize	get people together for a purpose; to plan
pamphlet	little booklet
pension	regular payment of living expenses to person who has retired
permanent	steady; lasting; fixed
permit	allow
petition	a formal written request
physical	having to do with the body
Pilgrims	people who came to Plymouth in 1620 from England
politician	a person who works for a political party
politics	affairs of government; management of political affairs
polls	places where people vote
population	people; the number of people in a place
posterity	people who will live in the future
postmaster	person in charge of a post office
poultry	chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks
power	strong nation; strength; might; force
precious	dear; of great value
prefer	to like one thing better than another; to choose; to decide in favor of
prescription	written order to a druggist telling him to make a certain medicine
preserve	to keep
primary election	a time when people nominate, rather than elect, a candidate
principal	main; most important; chief
private	belonging to or concerning an individual; personal; one's own; not public
privately-owned	owned by individuals, rather than a community
privilege	benefit or advantage
problems	questions
process	series of actions
proclamation	an official public announcement or notice; official publication
produce	to make or manufacture; grow
products	things made or grown for use
professional	relating to a job requiring special education
prohibits	does not permit; forbids
proper	right; correct
protection	providing safety; keeping a person or thing from being hurt
proud	thinking well of one's self
provides	gives; makes possible
public	belonging to the people of a community, state, or nation; not private
public housing projects	a group of houses built by the city, state, or Federal government
public office	a position in the service of a nation, state, or city
purposes	reasons for doing something
reasons	explanations
record	thing written or kept for future use
references	letters from employers saying how good a worker a person is
refineries	places where raw materials are made ready for use
regarding	about
region	area; section of a country or state
register	have one's name written into a list of people who can take a job or can vote

Word	Meaning
regularly	at certain, expected times
relatives	people in one's own family
religious	relating to faith and worship
remind	to tell again
rent	to pay for the use of land, home, etc.; the money paid for such use
represent	to speak and work for a person or a group of people
representative	a person chosen to act for another; delegate
requirement	something needed
residence	place where a person lives
resource	any supply that will meet a need
respect	show honor
responsibility	a task; a debt; a duty
retire	give up a job or office; stop working
right	something to which one has a just claim; any power or privilege given a person by law, custom, etc.
rivals	persons who are opponents
rule	guide; govern; control
sanitation	keeping things clean for health reasons
secret	known only to one's self
seeking	looking for
select	choose
self-educated	taught by one's self
separate	keep apart
service	a convenience; a useful thing to be done or given; a helpful act
service trades	jobs that make other people more comfortable
settle	set up a home; live
share	to use and enjoy together
shorthand	writing by symbols
shortage	too small a number or amount; not enough
skill	great ability
slavery	the owning or keeping of slaves
social security	a Federal plan to take care of workers in their old age
solved	figured out; found the answer
source	place where something comes from
specialized	different; unusual; requiring special training
standard of living	way of living; things needed and used in order to live in a certain way
stationery	articles such as paper, pens, ink, pencils, etc.
stenography	writing in shorthand
strange	not known or heard of before
strength	ability; force; power
struggle	battle; fight
suggests	hints; mentions
supply	to give, provide, or fill
supreme	highest in importance
surveyor	person who measures and marks land
survived	lived after others died
sworn	bound by oath
tenant	person who rents an apartment, house, etc., from another

Word	Meaning
territory	land; region; land belonging to a government
textiles	woven cloth
trade	business; work one does
trained	taught; made ready and able to do something
traitor	person who works against his own country
tranquility	condition of being calm, peaceful, or quiet
treaty	agreement between nations
tuition	money paid to a school in order to attend that school
type	kind; sort; typewrite
unconstitutional	not according to the Constitution or law
uneducated	not trained
union	people joined together for a common purpose or cause
unity	being together; being or acting as one
unusual	not common; rare
urban	relating to a city or town
vacancy	an empty apartment, house, or room that can be rented; a job that is open
veto	refuse to allow a bill to become a law by not signing it
vocational	having to do with trades
want	need; something needed
wealth	riches; land; resources; money
welcome	greeting
wise	to have great understanding of persons, conditions, and situations
witnesses	persons who give testimony and evidence
wonder	think about; want to know why
worship	pray to; pay honor and respect to

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